

Featuring **THE BLACK HOOD**  
**TOP-NOTCH**  
*comics*

**NO. 15** MAY

also.....  
THE **WIZARD**  
with  
THE **ROY**  
**SUPER BOY**

10c







# WEB COMIC UNIVERSE.COM



# 2 leady STORIES in each MAGAZINE

**THE BLACK HOOD**




**THE Wizard**  
WITH  
**ROY THE SUPER-BOY**





**TOP-NOTCH**  
ON SALE ABOUT THE 10<sup>TH</sup> OF EVERY MONTH *comics*

**THE SHIELD**  
WITH  
**DUSTY**  
THE SPECTACULAR  
BOY DETECTIVE




**DANNY**  
IN  
**WONDERLAND**




**PEEP** 

ON SALE ABOUT THE 15<sup>TH</sup> OF EVERY MONTH

**STEEL**  
**STERLING**  
MAN OF STEEL



**DICKY**  
IN THE  
**MAGIC FOREST**



**ZIP**  
**COMICS**

ON SALE ABOUT THE 25<sup>TH</sup> OF EVERY MONTH

**RANG-A-TANG**  
THE WONDER DOG



WITH *Richy*  
**THE AMAZING BOY**



**MR. JUSTICE**



**BLUE RIBBON**

**COMICS**  

ON SALE ABOUT THE 30<sup>TH</sup> OF EVERY MONTH

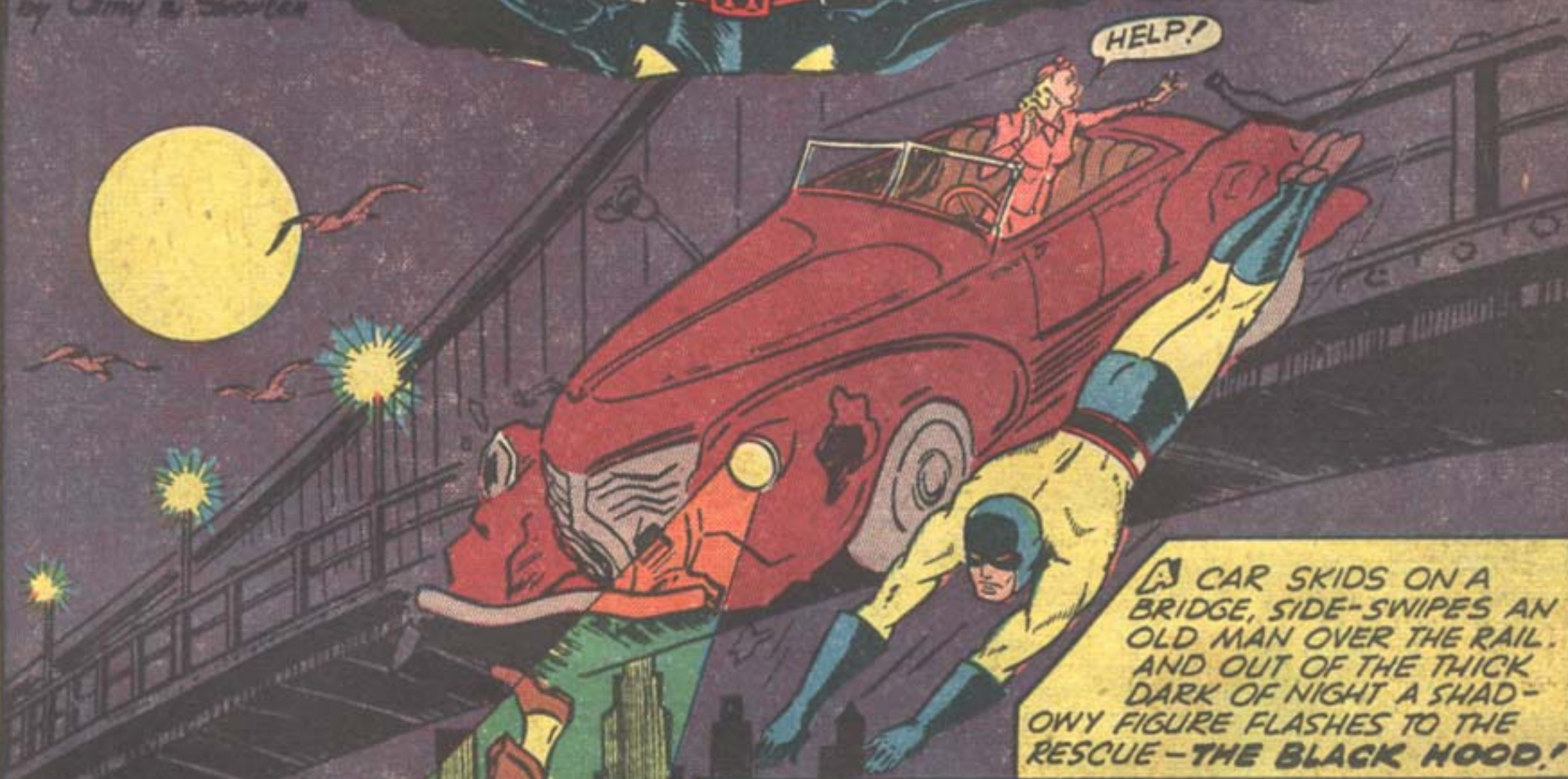
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# THE BLACK HOOD

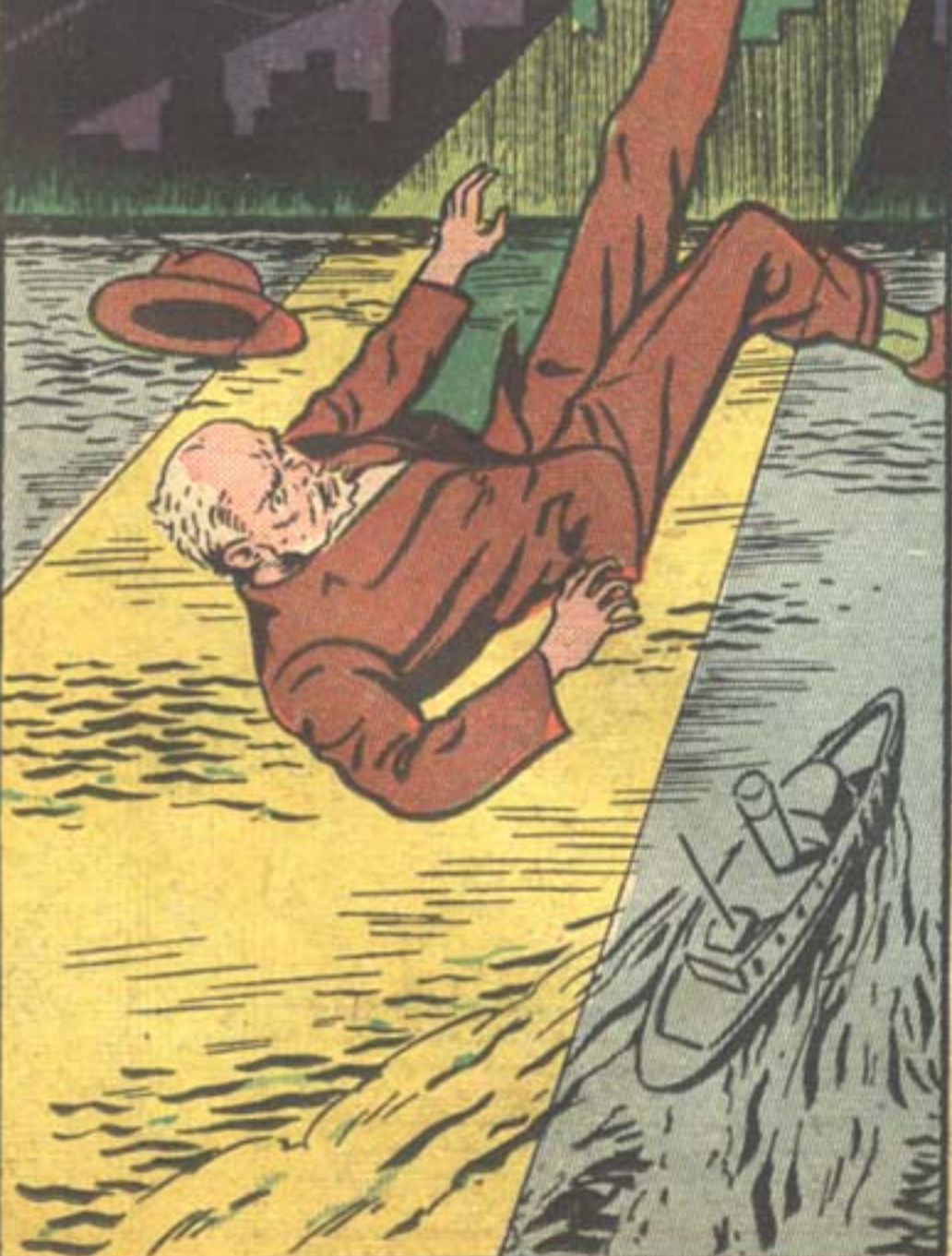
MAN OF MYSTERY

by Camy & Saylor



HELP!

A CAR SKIDS ON A BRIDGE, SIDE-SWIPE'S AN OLD MAN OVER THE RAIL, AND OUT OF THE THICK DARK OF NIGHT A SHAD-OWY FIGURE FLASHES TO THE RESCUE—THE BLACK HOOD!

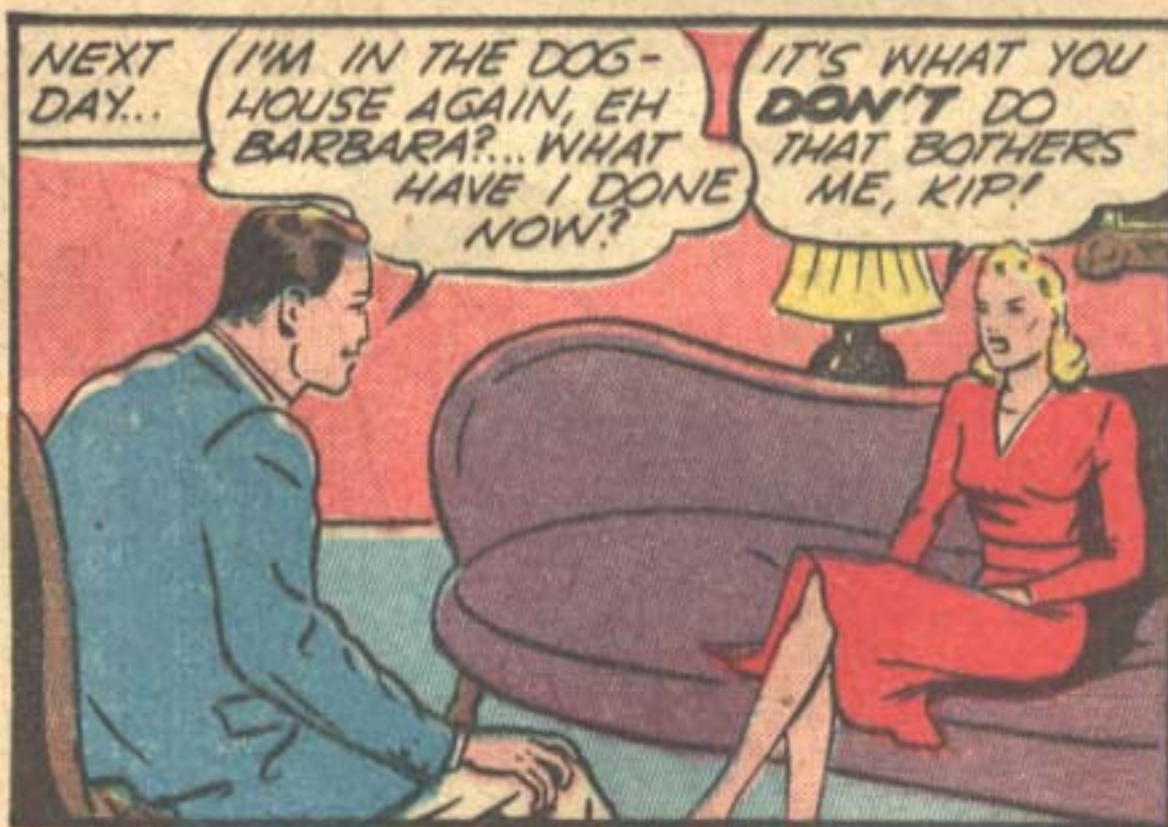
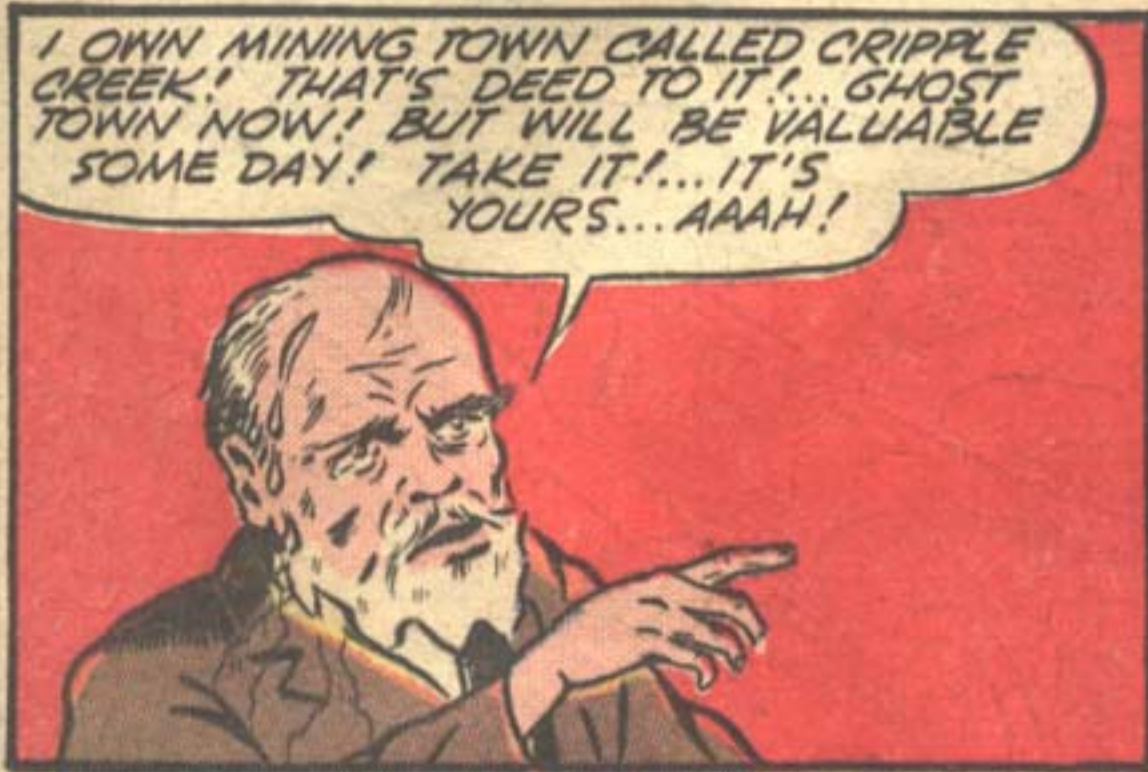


EASY, OLD TIMER! I'LL HAVE YOU OUT IN NO TIME!



POOR OLD GUY! PROBABLY SOME DERELICT... HOPE THAT CAR DID-N'T HURT HIM MUCH!









WHY IT IS SO!.. HOW THRILLING!  
I HAVE AN IDEA!.. WE'LL GO  
THERE RIGHT AWAY!

NOW, WAIT A  
MINUTE!..!..  
..ER...



THERE YOU GO AGAIN WITH  
YOUR TIMIDITY!.. WELL, I  
KNOW SOMEONE WHO'LL  
GO... JOE STRONG!

I KNOW YOU'RE A  
REPORTER BARBARA!  
..BUT THERE'S NO  
STORY IN THIS THING!



A GOOD REPORTER MAKES A STORY!  
AND DON'T CONCERN YOURSELF  
OVER MY SAFETY! JOE IS A  
LOT MORE HELP THAN YOU!

HELP  
WHAT'S THAT!



LOOKS LIKE YOUR  
DOG'S TREED  
SOMEBODY, BABS!

COME HERE,  
BOWSER!

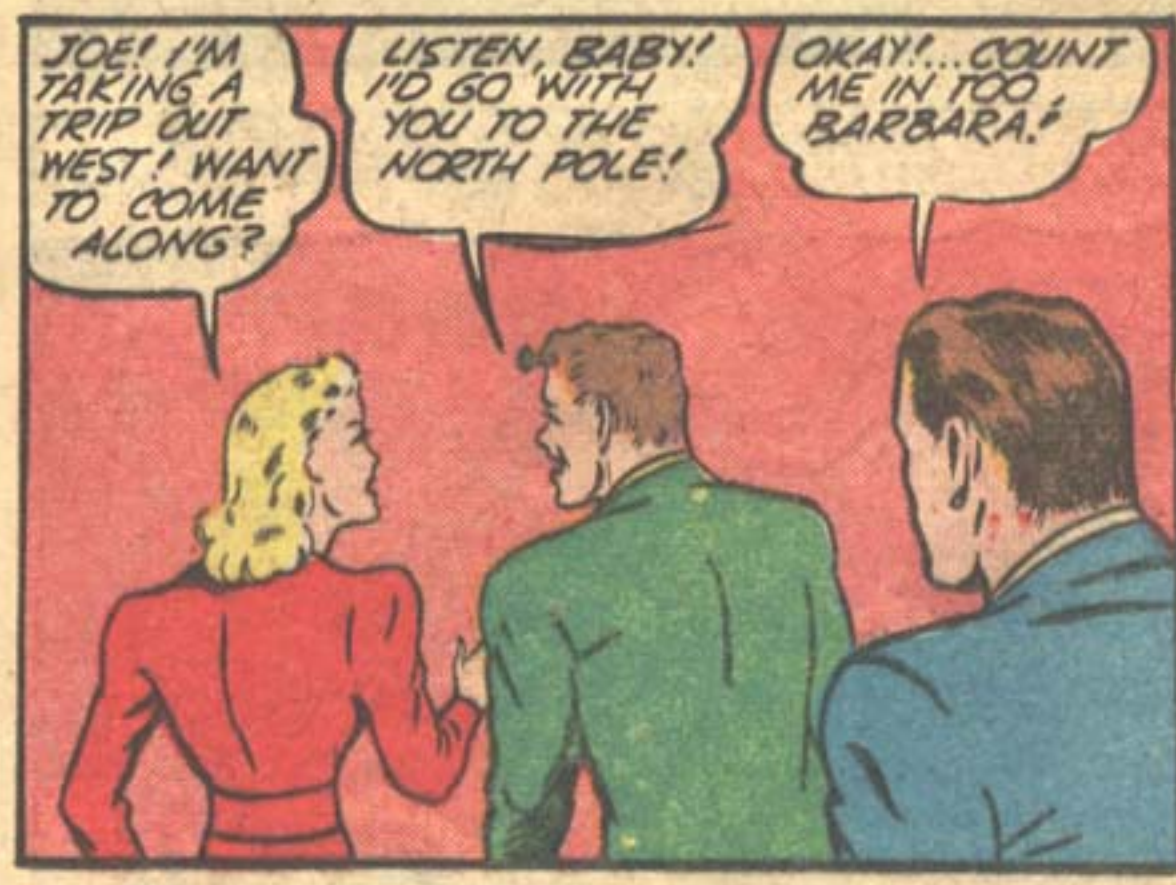
WOOF  
WOOF



WHY IT'S  
JOE! BOWSER  
NEVER BIT  
ANYBODY  
IN HIS  
LIFE!

HA HA!  
..SO HE'S  
YOUR BIG,  
STRONG  
MAN,  
BARBARA?

IZZAT SO! BUTTIN  
YOUR LIP, BURLAND,  
OR I'LL 'HANG ONE'  
ON YOUR CHIN!



JOE! I'M  
TAKING A  
TRIP OUT  
WEST! WANT  
TO COME  
ALONG?

LISTEN, BABY!  
I'D GO WITH  
YOU TO THE  
NORTH POLE!

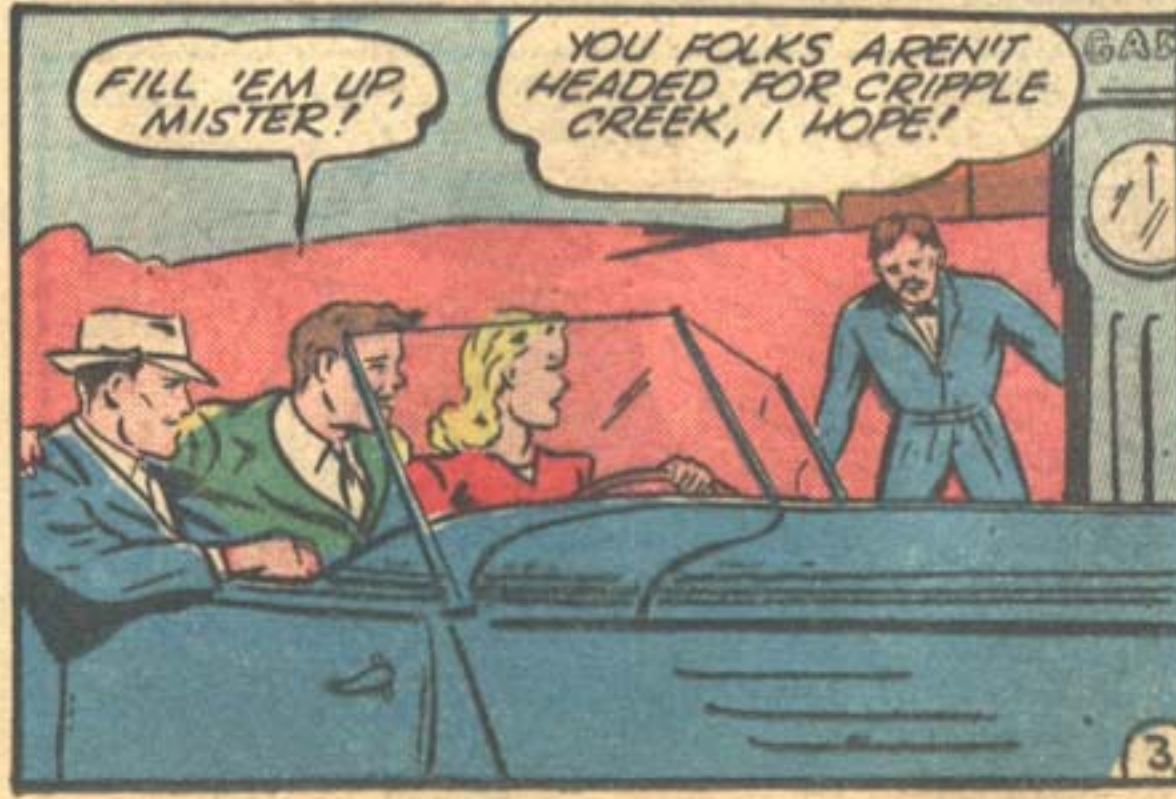
OKAY!.. COUNT  
ME IN TOO,  
BARBARA!



DAYS LATER!

WELL! WE SHOULD  
BE THERE PRETTY  
SOON, EH, KIP?

NOT IF YOU DON'T  
PULL INTO THE  
NEXT GAS STATION  
FOR GAS!



FILL 'EM UP,  
MISTER!

YOU FOLKS AREN'T  
HEADED FOR CRIPPLE  
CREEK, I HOPE!





WHY, YES! AND WHY SHOULDN'T WE GO THERE?

'CAUSE IT'S HAUNTED... BY A HEADLESS HORSE-MAN! GO BACK BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE!



I ALSO TOLD A PROSPECTOR HEAD-ED THAT WAY JUST A LITTLE WHILE AGO!... BUT HE WOULDN'T TAKE MY WARNIN'!

AND NEITHER WILL WE!... HEAD-LESS HORSEMAN... BALONEY!



THAT GHOST STORY INTER-ESTS ME!... WOULD YOU MIND TELLING ME MORE ABOUT THIS HEADLESS HORSEMAN?

SURE, MAM!... BUT IT AIN'T A VERY PURTY TALE!



IT ALL STARTED WHEN CRIPPLE CREEK WAS FLUSH WITH MINERS AND GAMBLERS-THE WORST BEING PINTO PETE !!!

YOU'RE A CHEAT, PINTO!



PINTO WAS LIGHTNING FAST ON THE DRAW AND HE KILLED THEM-TWO MEN WHO WERE TWIN BROTHERS.

BANG

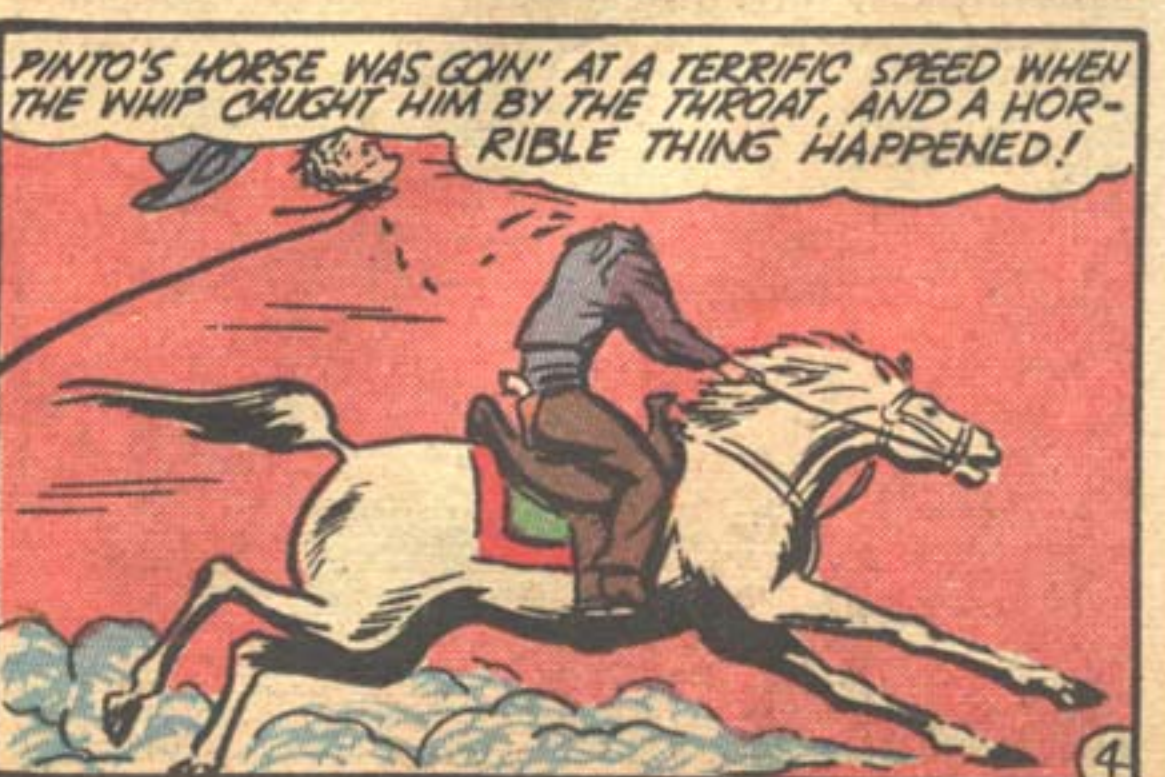


THE SHERIFF WENT AFTER PINTO WITH A BULL WHIP. WANTED TO TAKE HIM ALIVE!

STOP, PINTO!



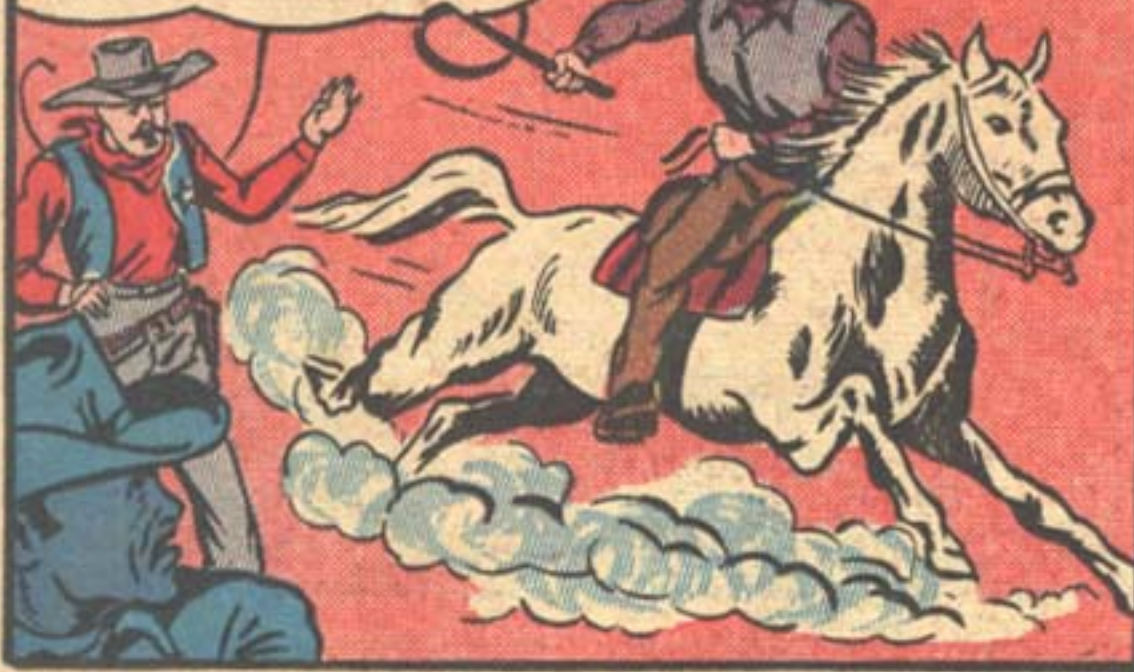
SO HE SLUNG THE WHIP AFTER HIM-NOT RECKONIN' ON THE FEARFUL CONSEQUENCES!



PINTO'S HORSE WAS GOIN' AT A TERRIFIC SPEED WHEN THE WHIP CAUGHT HIM BY THE THROAT, AND A HOR-RIBLE THING HAPPENED!



AND THE STORY GOES THAT PINTO CAME RIGHT BACK, HEADLESS, GRABBED THE WHIP FROM THE SHERIFF -



AND TORE HIS HEAD OFF EXACTLY THE SAME WAY!



THAT HEADLESS HORSEMAN KEPT COMIN' BACK, DETERMINED TO WIPE OUT THE WHOLE TOWN! 'N WOULD'VE IF THEY HADN'T BEAT IT!

HAW, HAW! THAT'S A LAUGH!

MAYBE THERE'S SOMETHING IN HIS STORY BARBARA!



I DON'T LIKE GHOSTS! LET'S TURN BACK!

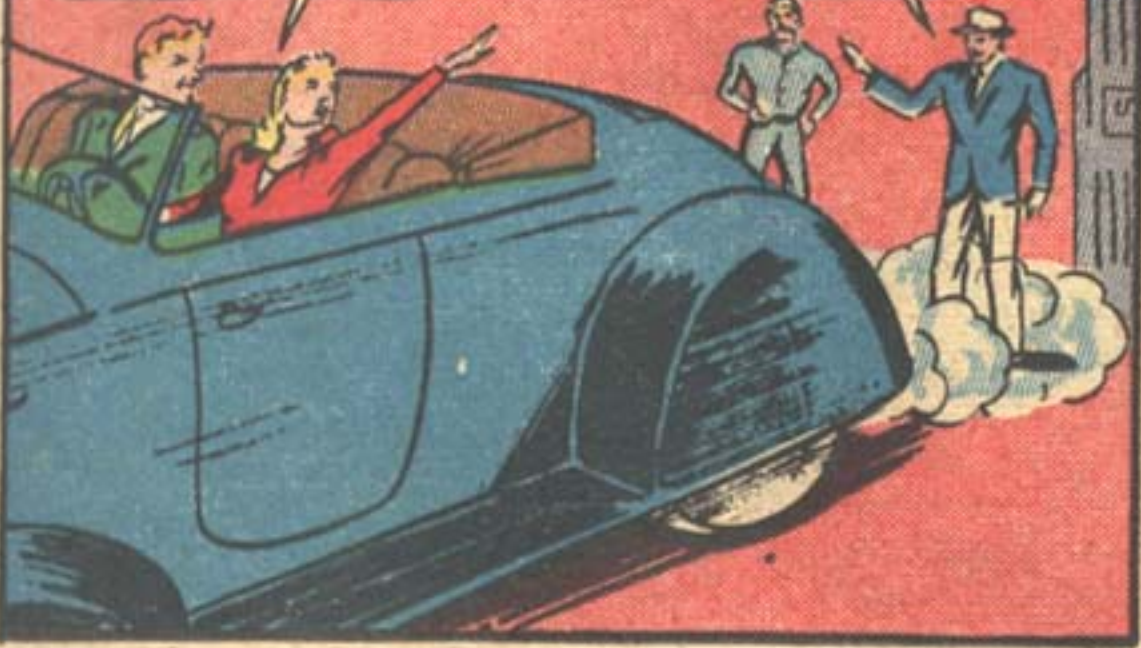
KIP BURLAND, YOU COWARD! I'M NOT GIVING YOU BACK THE DEED TO THE TOWN!

'AT'S TELLIN HIM, BARBARA!



TOODLE-OO!... YOU CAN WAIT HERE FOR US... WHERE YOU'LL BE SAFE!

ER...AH... YEAH! S' LONG!



CAN YOU IMAGINE THAT! EXPECTIN' US TO BELIEVE THAT FAIRY STORY!

JUST THE SAME, I WISH HE HADN'T NOW! IT WAS GRUESOME!



SUDDENLY-

JOE! GREAT HEAVENS! LOOK! A HEAD-LESS CORPSE!



IT MUST BE THAT PROSPECTOR THE STATION ATTENDANT WAS TELLIN' US ABOUT!

H...HOW HORRIBLE!









THEN A MISDIRECTED LASH TWIRLS AROUND ONE OF THE HOUSE POSTS - AND TEARS IT OFF!



NOW'S MY CHANCE!

WHIP STILL COILED ABOUT THE POST, THE HEADLESS HORSEMAN IS FORCED TO RETREAT WITH THE BLACK HOOD IN PURSUIT!



EASY NOW BARBARA! I'LL TAKE CARE O' YOU!

THE GHOST MAN'S HORSE HEADS STRAIGHT FOR THE STEEP SLOPE - AND PLUNGES OVER!



WHEN THE HOOD COMES UP-

WHAT IN- HE SEEMS TO HAVE VANISHED IN THIN AIR! I'LL HAVE A LOOK AROUND!



WHADDA YA WANNA GO CHASIN' AFTER 'EM FOR, BARBARA?

OH HUSH UP, JOE! WHERE IN THE WORLD CAN THEY HAVE BOTH GONE?



THE BLACK HOOD SAVED OUR LIVES, JOE!

NUTS! HE WAS SO ANXIOUS TO GET OUTTA THE WAY OF THAT WHIP HE JUST HAPPENED TO BUMP US ASIDE!



WHEN THEY RETURN TO THE CAR-

I'LL BE...

KIP BURLAND! HOW DID YOU GET HERE?

GOT A LIFT! I... ER... DECIDED TO STICK WITH YOU!



YOU MEAN YOU GOT THE HEEBIE JEEBIES, YOU SHRINKIN' VIOLET!

OH LOOK! THAT'S THE PLACE WHERE THE GHOST BUSINESS BEGAN! LET'S GO IN!







IT'S PITCH DARK IN THERE

ER... I'LL STAY OUTSIDE IF YOU DON'T MIND!



LOOK JOE!... A LIGHT! THERE MUST BE SOMEONE IN THE NEXT ROOM!

LET'S GO IN AND SEE!



JOE! IT... IT... CAN'T BE! THAT'S THE SCENE THE GAS ATTENDANT TOLD US ABOUT! THOSE TWINS AND THE HEADLESS HORSE-MAN!

AND THAT LIGHT GLOWIN' FROM 'EM!... TH... THEY MUST BE GHOSTS!



JOE!... TH... THEY'RE COMING AT US!



STAND BACK! OR I'LL PLUG YOU! SO HELP ME!

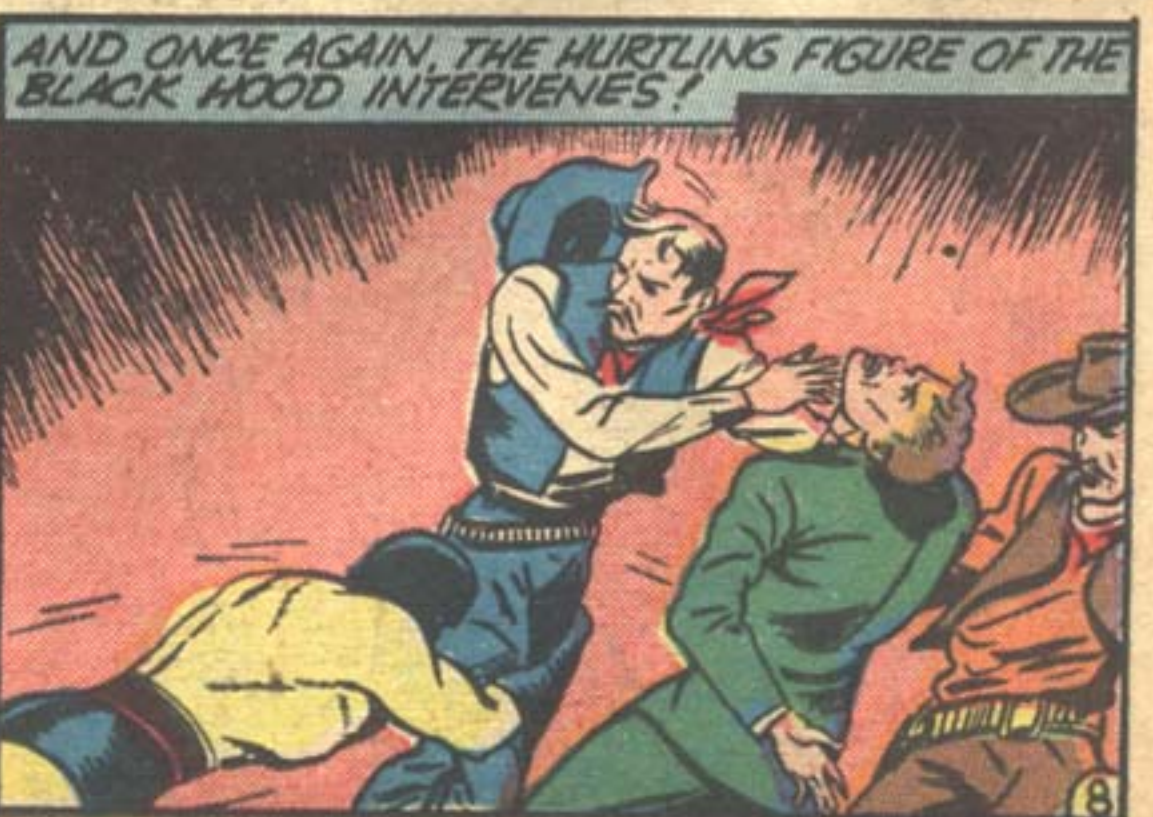


HOLY HANNAH! I'M SHOOTIN' RIGHT INTO THEM, BUT IT DOESN'T STOP 'EM!



GLUG!

HELP!



AND ONCE AGAIN, THE HURTLING FIGURE OF THE BLACK HOOD INTERVENES!

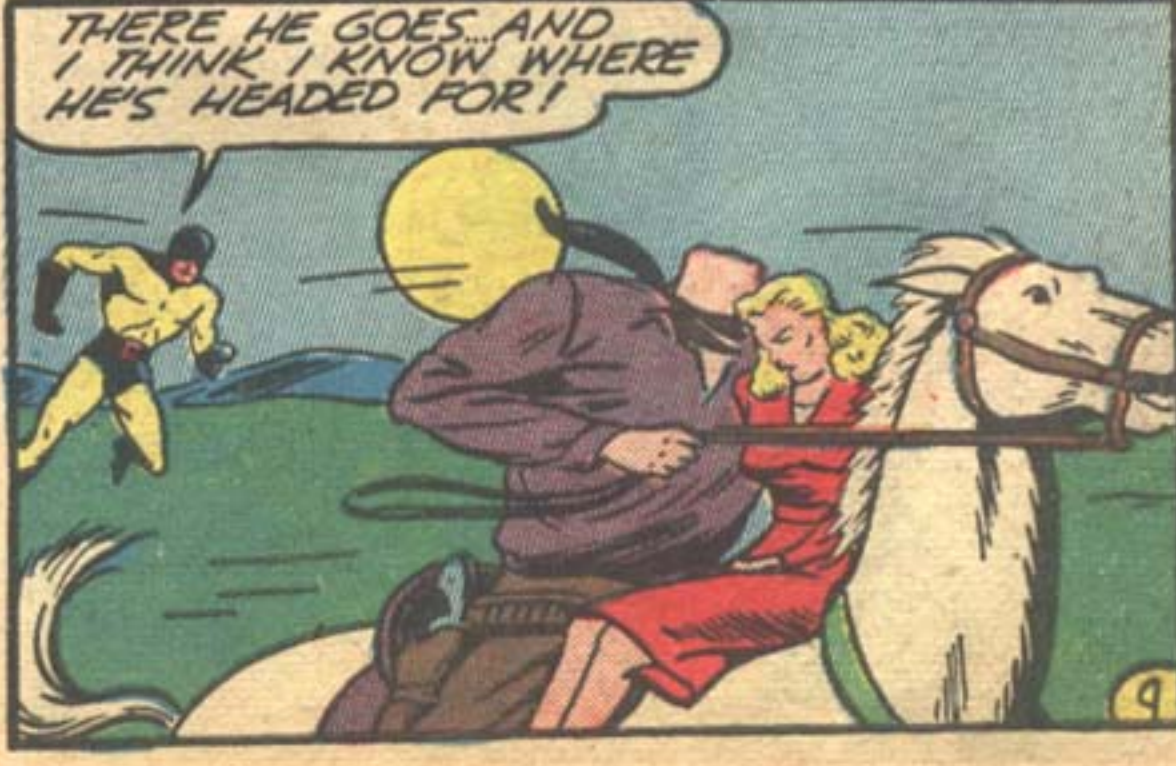




AND WHILE THE HOOD AND JOE ARE STILL REELING, THE HEADLESS HORSEMAN GRABS BARBARA!



JOE MAKES A FRANTIC DIVE, BUT—







WHILE JOE-

THAT HEADLESS HORSEMAN'S MADE A MONKEY OUT OF ME ONCE TOO OFTEN!



I'LL CATCH UP WITH HIM! AND WHEN I DO...



WHOA... WHAT'S THAT NOISE DOWN IN THAT RAVINE!



HMM! SOMETHING MOVING UNDER THAT SHRUBBERY!



TRYIN' TO HIDE HUH! I GOTCHA NOW!



OWWI!... IT'S A WILD STEER!

M...M...O...  
...O...O!



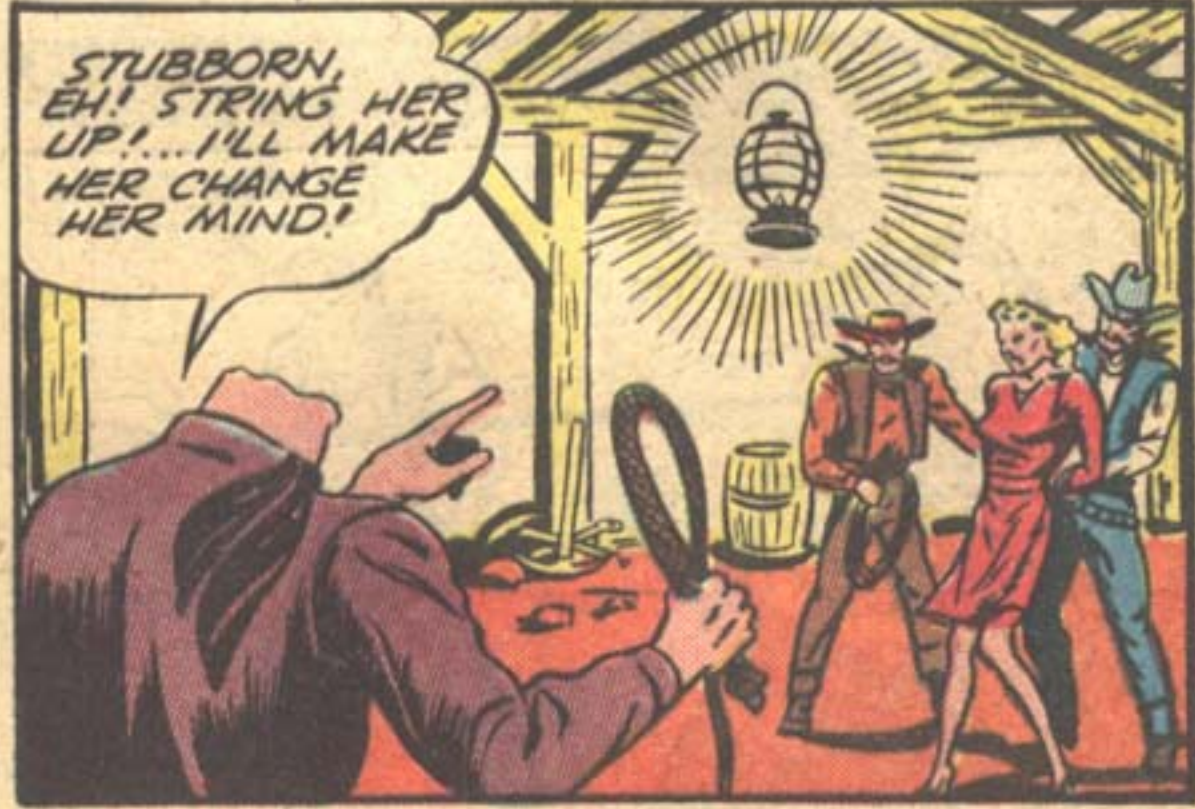
HEY! QUIT THAT BUCKIN'! I DIDN'T MEAN TO JUMP ON YOU!



OWOOO!... WHOA BOSCO, WILL YA?

M...O...O...O









HOOD! WATCH OUT! BEHIND YOU! THE WHIP!



OKAY! TRY USING THE WHIP NOW!

NO-NO

DON'T! YOU'LL KILL MY BROTHER!

THE HEADLESS HORSEMAN, CALLOUSLY INDIFFERENT TO THE LIFE OF HIS OWN HENCHMAN, TRIES TO STRIKE AT THE BLACK HOOD. BUT—



AARGH!

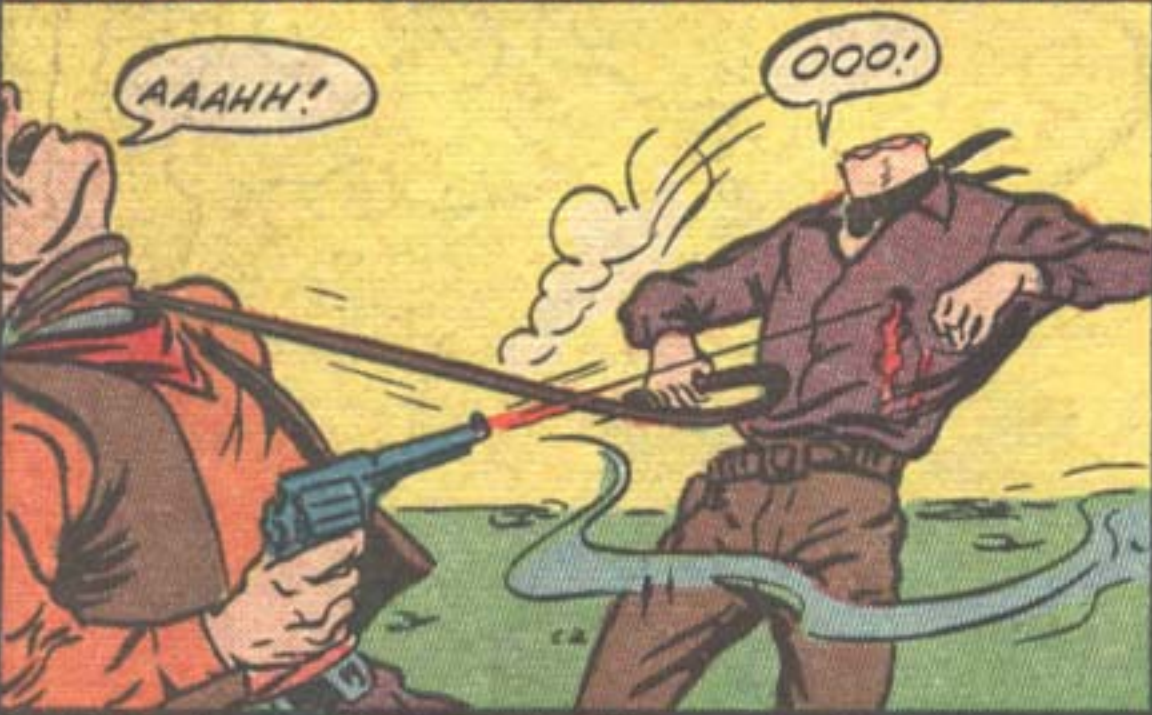
Y... YOU.. DIRTY..



KEEP AWAY FROM ME!

YUH KILLED MY BROTHER!... AND YOU'RE GOING TO PAY FOR IT!

SIMULTANEOUSLY, THE WHIP FLASHES OUT IN ANOTHER DEATH-STROKE AS THE COWBOY FIRES!



AAAHH!

OOO!



I... I DON'T UNDERSTAND...

WELL! WE'LL SOON FIND OUT WHAT IT'S ALL ABOUT!

A DISGUISE... AND... AND! GREAT HEAVENS! IT'S THAT GASOLINE ATTENDANT! BUT... WHY... HOW!



TO FRIGHTEN PEOPLE AWAY! YOU'RE DYING MISTER... DO YOU WANT TO TALK?

NO, BLAST YUH! FIND OUT FER YERSELF! HAD YOU FOOLED FER AWHILE, DIDN'T I? ESPECIALLY WITH THOSE BLANK BULLETS I... STUCK INTO THAT NIT-WITS GUN... BACK AT THE GAS STATION! ... YA REALLY THOUGHT... WE... WERE GHOSTS!

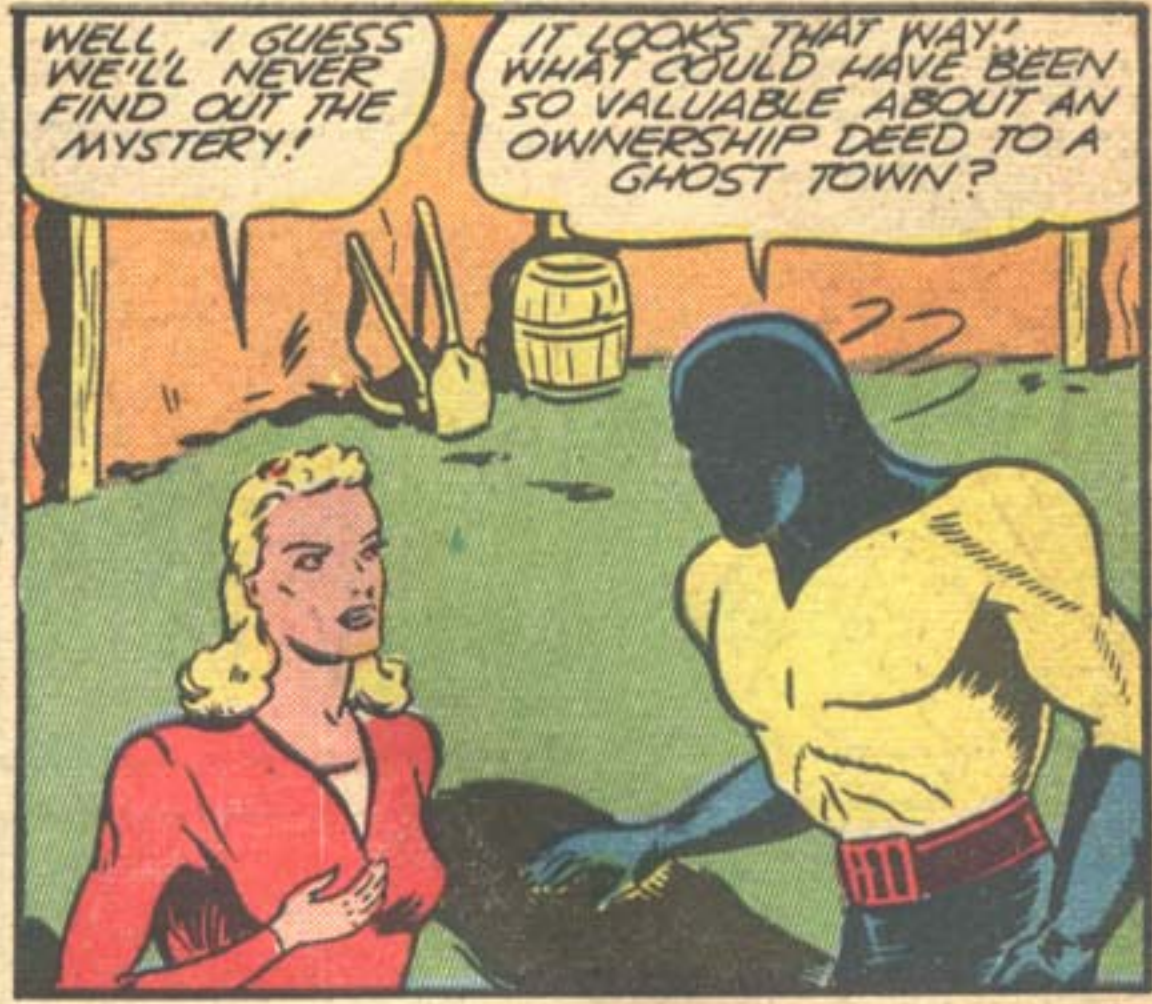






HE... HE'S DEAD!... BUT HOW DID YOU FIND US HERE?

THE LAST TIME I CHASED HIM, I DISCOVERED A HIDDEN CAVE RIGHT OVER THE SLOPE! ...THERE MUST BE ANOTHER SECRET ENTRANCE FROM THE SALOON!... THAT'S HOW THOSE OTHER TWO GOT HERE SO FAST!



WELL, I GUESS WE'LL NEVER FIND OUT THE MYSTERY!

IT LOOKS THAT WAY! WHAT COULD HAVE BEEN SO VALUABLE ABOUT AN OWNERSHIP DEED TO A GHOST TOWN?



SAY!... I JUST NOTICED! THIS SEEMS TO BE A MINE SHAFT! AND THOSE TOOLS! WHY THESE FELLOWS WERE WORKING THIS PLACE! ...WAIT A MINUTE!... I'VE GOT A HUNCH!



HOOD... WHERE ARE YOU GOING?

TO DO A LITTLE ROCK-CRACKING!



THIS IS THE SPOT THEY SEEM TO HAVE BEEN WORKING RECENTLY...



JUST AS I THOUGHT! HERE! TAKE A LOOK AT IT! RECOGNIZE IT?

GOOD GRACIOUS! GOLD!



YES! THEY DISCOVERED A NEW VEIN! THAT'S WHY THEY FRIGHTENED PEOPLE AWAY! TO PREVENT A GOLD RUSH!

BUT THAT DEED!...



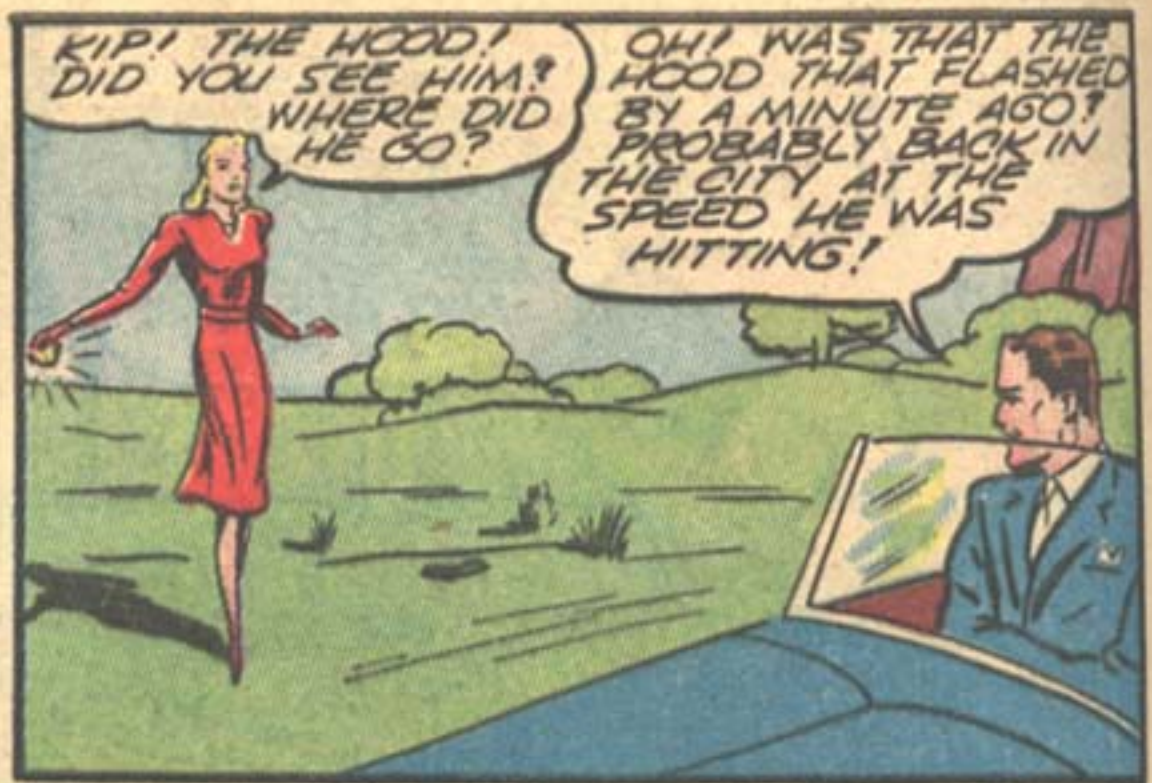
THIS VEIN'S RIGHT UNDER THE GHOST TOWN! AND THAT DEED HOLDER OWNED THE WHOLE TOWN, GOLD AND ALL!





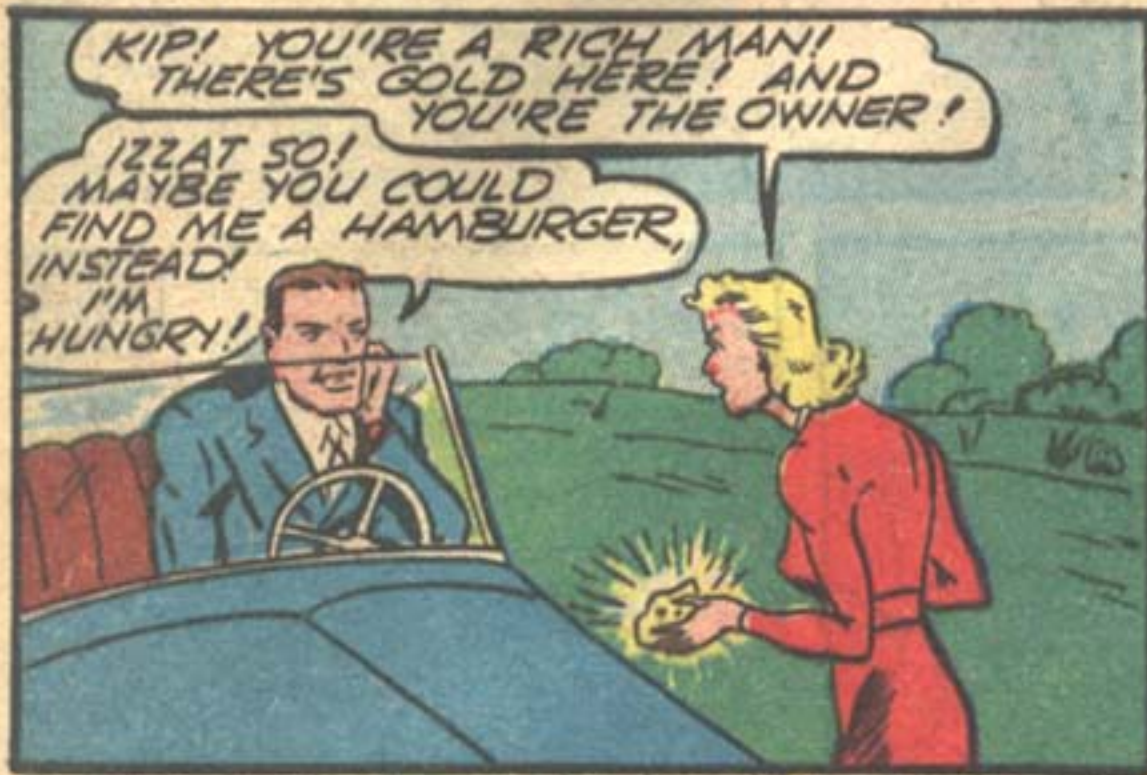
WELL!... YOU WON'T NEED ME ANYMORE! BETTER JOIN YOUR FRIENDS! SO LONG!

BUT HOOD!... WAIT!... I... I...



KIP! THE HOOD! DID YOU SEE HIM? WHERE DID HE GO?

OH! WAS THAT THE HOOD THAT FLASHED BY A MINUTE AGO? PROBABLY BACK IN THE CITY AT THE SPEED HE WAS HITTING!



KIP! YOU'RE A RICH MAN! THERE'S GOLD HERE! AND YOU'RE THE OWNER!

IZZAT SO! MAYBE YOU COULD FIND ME A HAMBURGER, INSTEAD! I'M HUNGRY!



OH!... YOU!... YOU'RE IMPOSSIBLE! I DON'T KNOW WHY I BOTHER WITH YOU AT ALL!... OR WHY THE BLACK HOOD DOES EITHER!

YOU SEEM TO BE THE BIG ATTRACTION FOR HIM!



JOE WOULD GET LOST NOW! WHERE IN THE WORLD CAN HE BE?

THAT VOICE SOUNDS FAMILIAR!



WOW! A WILD STEER! SURE LOOKS FEROCIOUS, TOO!

OH, STOP SNIVELING! MY HORN IS DRIVING HIM AWAY!



HEY! LOOKA! JOE UP A TREE AGAIN! THIS IS THE WAY WE STARTED.

YOU SHOULD TALK!



YA DON'T THINK THAT COW SCARED ME, DO YA?... I WAS... ER... JUST LOOKIN' FER... CHEST-NUTS! SURE THAT'S RIGHT! I GOT A SUDDEN CRAVING FER CHEST-NUTS! 'N WHEN I SAW THEM IN THAT TREE....

BLA... BLA... BLA.

LAUGHS WITH JOE STRONG! ROMANCE WITH BEAUTIFUL BARBARA SUTTON. THRILLS AND CHILLS AND BLOOD TINGLING ACTION WITH THE BLACK HOOD!  
  
ALL-IN EVERY ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS!  
  
THE BEST COMIC MAGAZINE A DIME CAN BUY



# THE WIZARD

REGISTERED UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE

## AND ROY THE SUPER BOY



A TOAST TO MR. WHITNEY, ONE OF OUR MOST RENOWNED CITIZENS. HIS ANCESTOR WAS ONE OF THE FIRST TO BE BURNED AT THE STAKE FOR WITCHCRAFT BY OUR IGNORANT ANCESTORS!

A TOAST!

SPEECH! SPEECH!

BLANE WHITNEY HAS TAKEN JANE AND ROY TO HIS HOME TOWN IN NEW ENGLAND FOR A VACATION!... AT THE MOMENT, THE VILLAGERS ARE HOLDING THE FEAST OF ALL HALLOW'S EVE, THE NIGHT OF THE WITCHES... AND TO SUIT THE OCCASION ALL ARE GARBED IN THE STYLE OF THEIR ANCESTORS, THE WITCH-HUNTING PURITANS OF EARLY AMERICA!



SUDDENLY...

EEE!

WHAT IN...!



I AM THE DESCENDANT OF THE WITCH! YOU, JOHN DEWEY, SHALL DIE!



AN INGENIOUS JOKE, MR. REEVES! CONGRATULATIONS!

THERE HE GOES!



BUT I KNOW NOTHING OF THIS! I THOUGHT YOU STAGED IT!

WE... THE ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE?... WE HAD NOTHING TO DO WITH IT!



WHAT!

ER... MR. WHITNEY! THE WITCH HAS ALREADY INTRODUCED US!... THIS IS MY FIANCEE, NITA HOLBROOK!

HOW DO YOU DO?... THIS IS MISS BARLOW AND MY YOUNG FRIEND, ROY!



HOW DO YOU DO, MR. WHITNEY!

THAT'S A VERY ODD AMULET, MISS HOLBROOK! ... AND PRETTY TOO!

THANK YOU! IT'S A FAMILY HEIR-LOOM, SUPPOSED TO POSSESS MAGICAL QUALITIES! ONE OF MY ANCESTORS WAS KILLED AS A WITCH, YOU KNOW!



I'VE BEEN BORN WITH A HORROR OF THE THOUGHT -ALMOST AN OBSESSION! ... I REALLY DO BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE WITCHES, AND THE ONE WE JUST SAW IS NO HOAX!



WE HAVE A GREAT DEAL IN COMMON, DON'T YOU THINK, MR. WHITNEY?... WE SHOULD SEE A GREAT DEAL OF EACH OTHER!

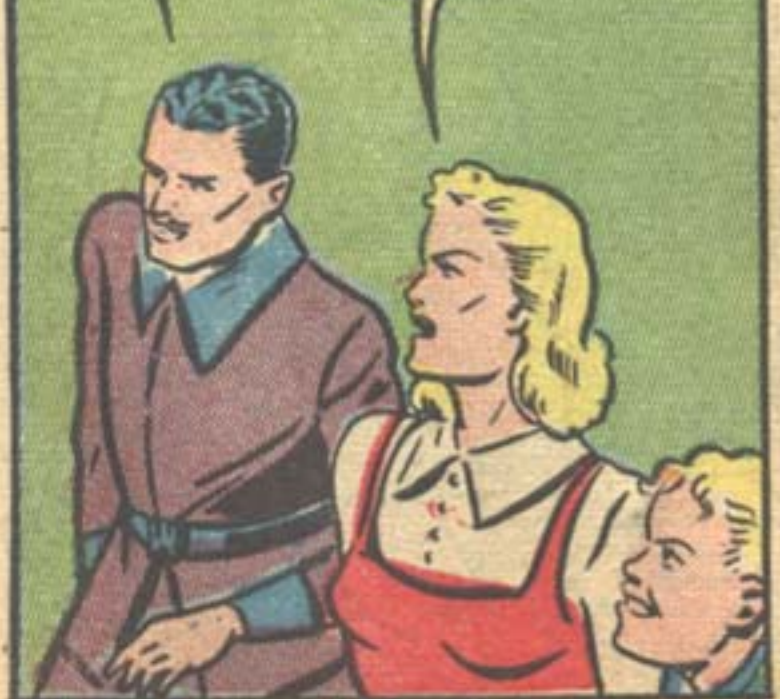


HMMMPH!

ER... AH... OF COURSE!

CHARMING GIRL, THAT MISS HOLBROOK, EH JANE?

YOU'VE SPOKEN ABOUT NOTHING ELSE NOW FOR FIVE MINUTES! PLEASE TAKE ME TO THE HOTEL, BLANE!



BRR! THAT'S WHAT I CALL A COLD SHOULDER! WHAT DID I SAY THAT WAS WRONG, ROY?



EVERYTHING, BLANE! JANE IS JEALOUS! HA! HA!



HEY BLANE! LOOK! A FIRE IN THE FOREST!



A LIGHTNING CHANGE AND THE WIZARD AND THE SUPER-BOY STREAK TOWARD THE CONFLAGRATION!



GREAT GHOSTS! AM I SEEING THINGS OR IS IT...

IT IS THE WITCH, WIZARD!



HEE, HEE! TOO LATE! I HAVE ALREADY CLAIMED MY FIRST VICTIM AS I SAID I WOULD!



AFTER HER, ROY! I'LL TRY TO SAVE THIS POOR FELLOW!



THE SUPER-BOY, IN HOT PURSUIT, GRADUALLY GAINS ON THE SWIFT FLEEING WITCH! UNTIL-



GOTCHA!



I'VE GOT SOME TRICKS OF MY OWN! HERE'S ONE OF THEM!

UGH!



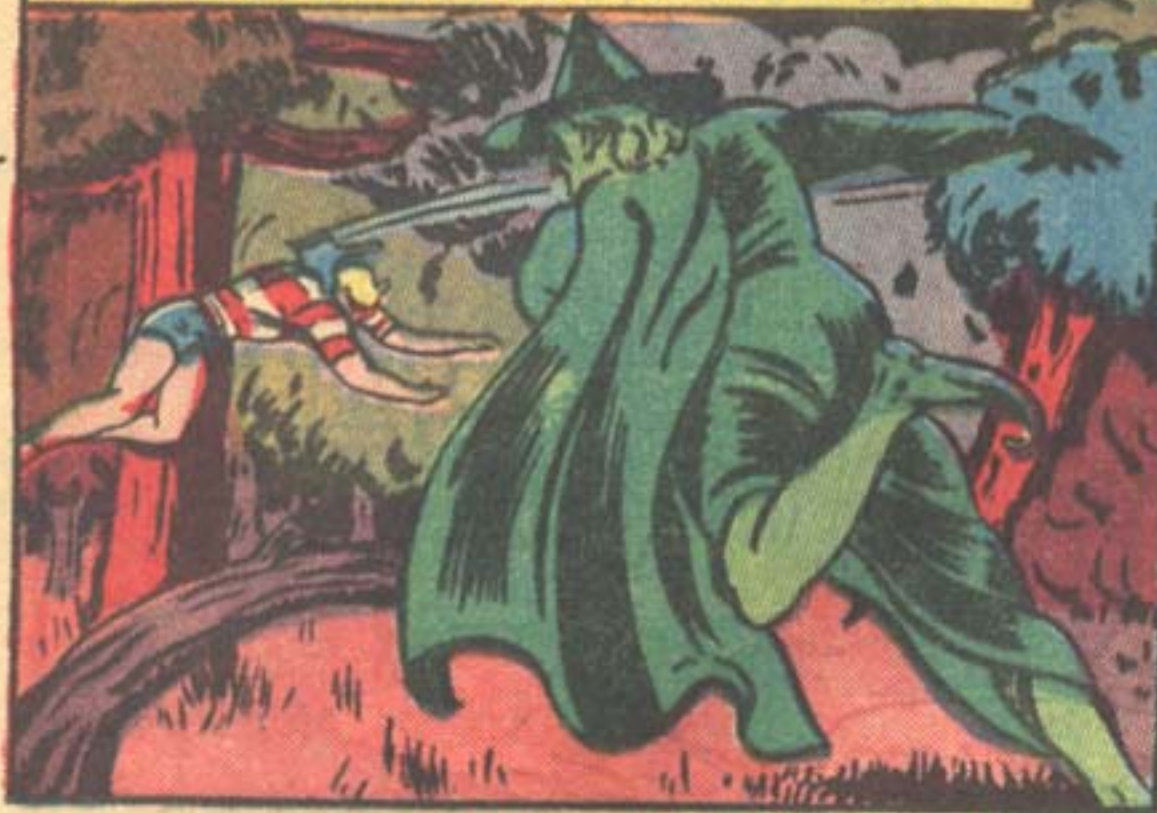
BUT THE WITCH, FAR FROM SUBDUED RUSHES AT ROY, GRASPS HIS THROAT-



AND LIFTING ROY OVERHEAD IN A REMARKABLE DISPLAY OF STRENGTH-



DASHES THE SUPER-BOY AGAINST A TREE!



WHEN ROY REGAINS HIS SENSES...

OOO! WH...WHAT HIT ME? WITCH!... ESCAPED! ...BETTER GET BACK TO THE WIZARD!



WIZARD! THE WITCH ESCAPED! HOW IS THAT GUY?

BURNED TO DEATH, POOR CHAP!



BOY! I NEVER THOUGHT A WOMAN COULD BE SO STRONG! DO YA THINK MAYBE SHE IS A REAL WITCH?

I DON'T KNOW, ROY! RIGHT NOW, LET'S GET DEWEY BACK TO TOWN!



BLANE AND ROY CARRY THE CHARRED REMAINS BACK TO THE HORRIFIED TOWNSPEOPLE!

IT WAS THE WITCH, FOLKS!... BURNED HIM AT THE STAKE!

GREAT LORD!...

W...WITCH!



LET ME THROUGH! JOHN... MY FIANCEE! THE WITCH KILLED HIM!...

IT'S MISS HOLBROOK!



THEY SCOFFED AT ME WHEN I TOLD THEM THE WITCH WAS REAL!... OH, MY POOR, DARLING JOHN! (SOB, SOB)

THERE, TAKE IT EASY, MISS HOLBROOK! IT'S A SHOCK, BUT YOU MUSTN'T TAKE ON SO!

OH YOU'RE SO UNDERSTANDING, MR WHITNEY!







HEY BLANE, LET'S GO BACK TO THE WOODS WHERE WE FOUND THE BODY- AND INVESTIGATE!

UH... UH... NOT NOW, ROY! WE BETTER STAY IN TOWN!...



YES!... THINGS HERE ARE MUCH MORE INTERESTING-LIKE THAT SLOE-EYED NITA HOLBROOK, EH, MR. WHITNEY!

I'LL BE... HE HAS GONE SOFT ON THAT DAME!

ER... WELL, SEE YOU LATER!



YOU AND WILL GO ALONE, ROY? WHERE WAS IT?

A LITTLE WAYS DOWN THIS DIRT ROAD, JANE!



WE FOUND THE WITCH BURNING DEWEY RIGHT HERE!

HOW HORRIBLE!



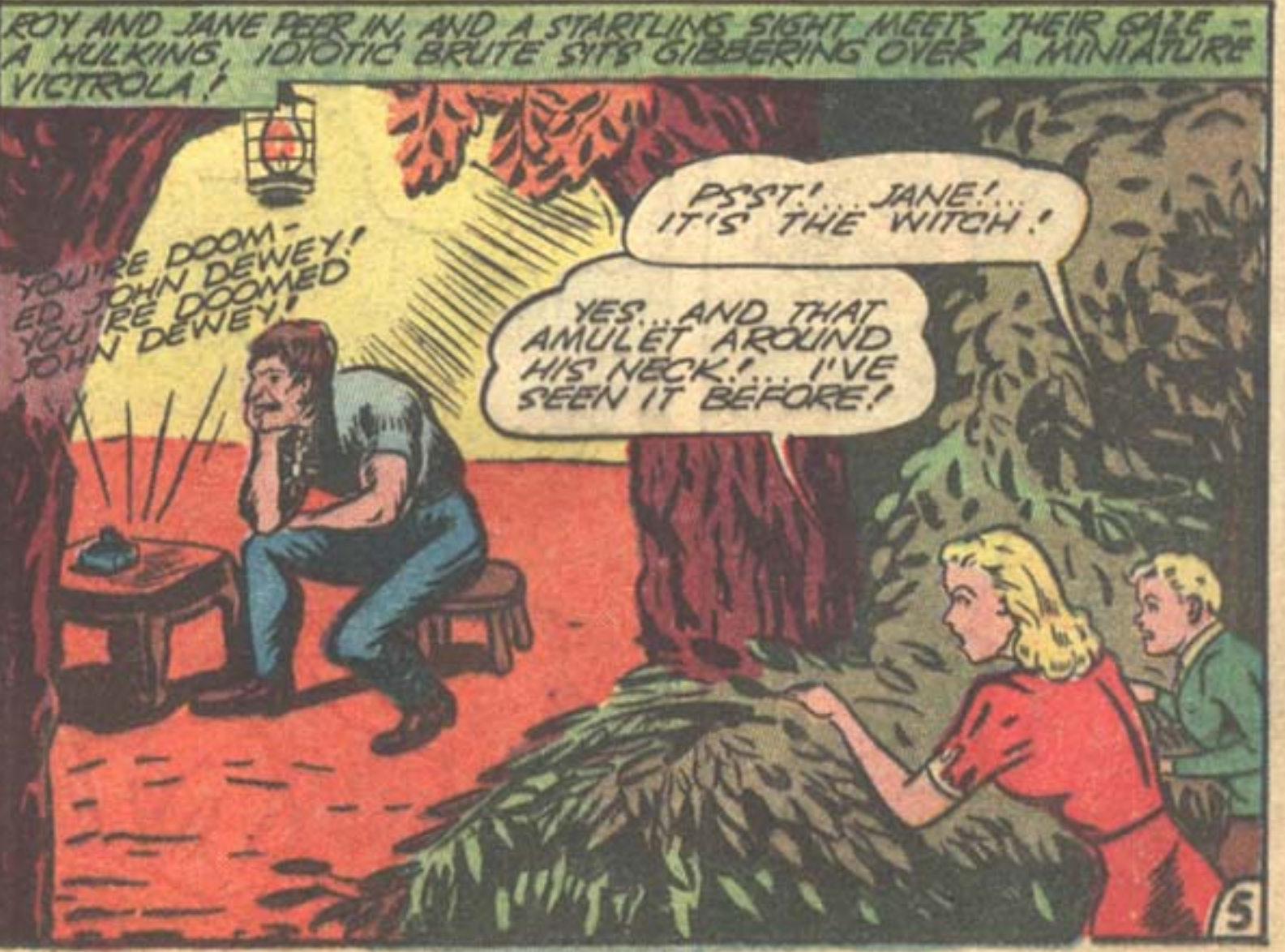
ROY! A WOMAN'S VOICE! DID YOU HEAR IT, TOO?

YES, JANE, IT CAME FROM THERE!



THERE IT IS AGAIN! IT'S COMING FROM BEHIND THAT SHRUBBERY!

IT'S A CAVE ENTRANCE, JANE!



ROY AND JANE PEER IN, AND A STARTLING SIGHT MEETS THEIR GAZE - A HULKING, IDIOTIC BRUTE SIT'S GIBBERING OVER A MINIATURE VICTROLA!

YOU'RE DOOMED JOHN DEWEY! YOU'RE DOOMED JOHN DEWEY!

PSST!... JANE!... IT'S THE WITCH!

YES... AND THAT AMULET AROUND HIS NECK!... I'VE SEEN IT BEFORE!





LET'S GO AND TELL BLANE ABOUT IT, JANE!

YOU CAN IF YOU WANT TO!.. I'M HANDLING THIS ALONE!.. I'M GOING TO SEE NITA HOLBROOK RIGHT NOW!



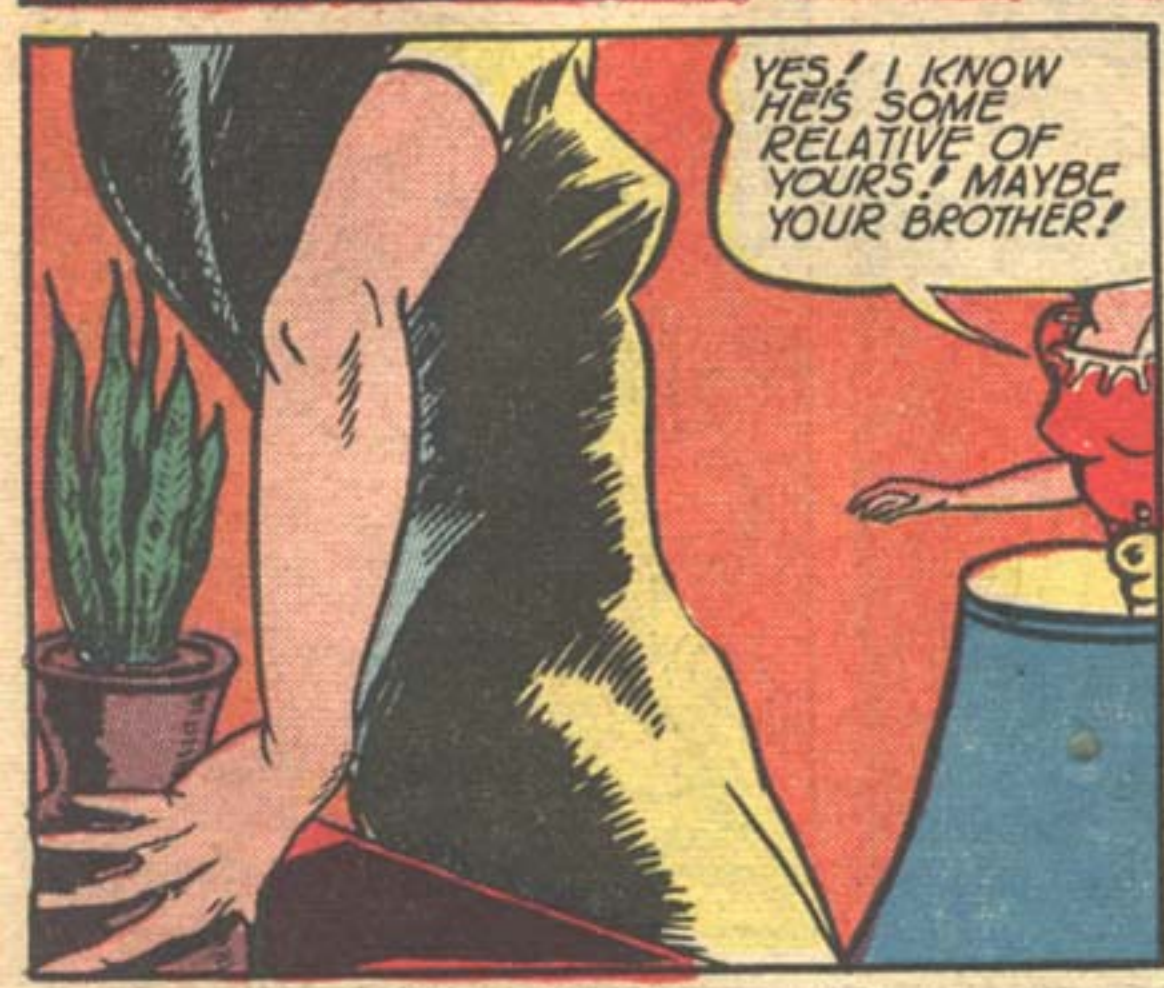
WHY HELLO!..WHAT BRINGS YOU HERE THIS TIME OF NIGHT!

YOU'LL KNOW SOON ENOUGH!.. AND YOU WON'T LIKE IT!



I SAW THE WITCH! HE WAS WEARING AN AMULET JUST LIKE YOURS... THE HEIRLOOM, YOU CALLED IT!

Y..YOU KNOW!



YES! I KNOW HE'S SOME RELATIVE OF YOURS! MAYBE YOUR BROTHER!



YOU KNOW TOO MUCH... UNFORTUNATELY FOR YOU!



WHEN JANE REGAINS CONSCIOUSNESS...

SO YOU'VE COME TO IN TIME TO SEE YOUR OWN END, EH!



YES!.. HE'S MY BROTHER!.. BUT YOU SHAN'T LIVE TO TELL ANYBODY ELSE!

WHAT ARE YOU UP TO!.. LET ME GO!



THIS WOOD IS SOAKED IN KEROSENE!.. I'LL PUT THE CANDLE ON IT!.. THERE! WHEN IT BURNS LOW THE FLAME WILL IGNITE IT.. AND THEN YOU'LL BE FREE.. FOREVER!

NO! NO! HELP!



MEANWHILE...

'N SO THIS BIG GOON WAS PLAYIN' A MINIATURE PHONOGRAPH THAT HAD A WOMAN'S VOICE ON IT!... JANE WENT TO SEE THE HOLBROOK GIRL!

A WOMAN'S VOICE EH? ...HMM... INTERESTING... VERY INTERESTING!

NO!... I WON'T GO BACK WITH YOU ROY!... I'M GOING TO NITA HOLBROOK'S HOUSE, TOO!

WHAT!... JANE WAS RIGHT! YOU HAVE GONE SOFT ON THAT DAME!... OKAY I'LL GO MYSELF!

WAIT A MINUTE ROY! ...COME BACK!

NOTHING DOING! YOU THINK MORE OF THAT DAME THAN OF US!... OKAY GO TO HER!

JUST THEN BLANE'S SUPER BRAIN IS STIRRED BY JANE'S CRY FOR HELP AND HE SUMMONS UP A VISION...

THAT SHE-DEVIL IS ROASTING JANE ALIVE!

HA HA!

PLEASE! DON'T!

FASTER THAN THOUGHT ITSELF THE WIZARD STREAKS TO THE RESCUE OF HIS BELOVED...

WHAT A FOOL I WAS TO LET JANE INTO THIS!

CLOSER AND CLOSER THE FLAMES LICK ABOUT TO JANE'S BODY...

OOOHH!

WIZARD! THANK HEAVENS!

A HEAVING SURGE, A LEAP AND OUT OF THE JAWS OF DEATH, COMES JANE, STAKE AND ALL!



WHILE IN THE VILLAGE A STARTLING MESSAGE IS POSTED ON THE BULLETIN BOARD!

EEE!...IT'S... WRITTEN IN BLOOD!

IT'S THE WITCH'S WORK AGAIN CURSE HER SOUL!



WILLIAM SCRAGGS WILL BE BURNED AT THE STAKE IN THE FOREST AT 12 MIDNIGHT!



OFF INTO THE FOREST, STORM THE INFURIATED VILLAGERS... WE'LL BURN HER AT THE STAKE, TOO!



DEATH TO THE WITCH!

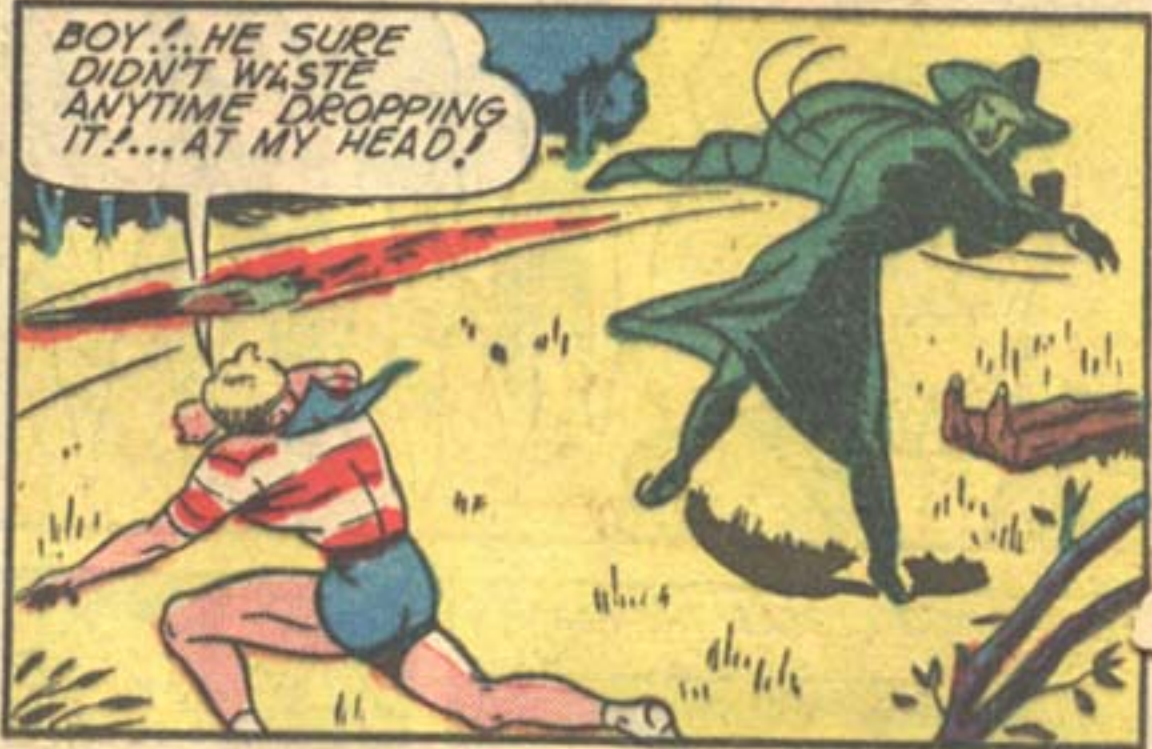


BUT THE SUPERBOY ARRIVES FIRST...

LOOKS LIKE I GOT HERE JUST IN TIME! DROP THAT BRAND!



BOY! HE SURE DIDN'T WASTE ANYTIME DROPPING IT!... AT MY HEAD!



YOU MADE A SUCKER OUT OF ME ONCE BEFORE!... NOW IT'S MY TURN!



THERE THEY ARE!... TWO OF THEM!



HEY! HOW DID THEY KNOW ABOUT THIS?

YOU WON'T GET AWAY! GRAB HIM, MEN! ARE YOU CRAZY? I'M NO FRIEND OF THE WITCH! BURNING IS TOO GOOD FOR THEM!





YOU'RE RIGHT! THEY'LL DIE THE HARD WAY! TIE THEM TO THOSE SAPLINGS!

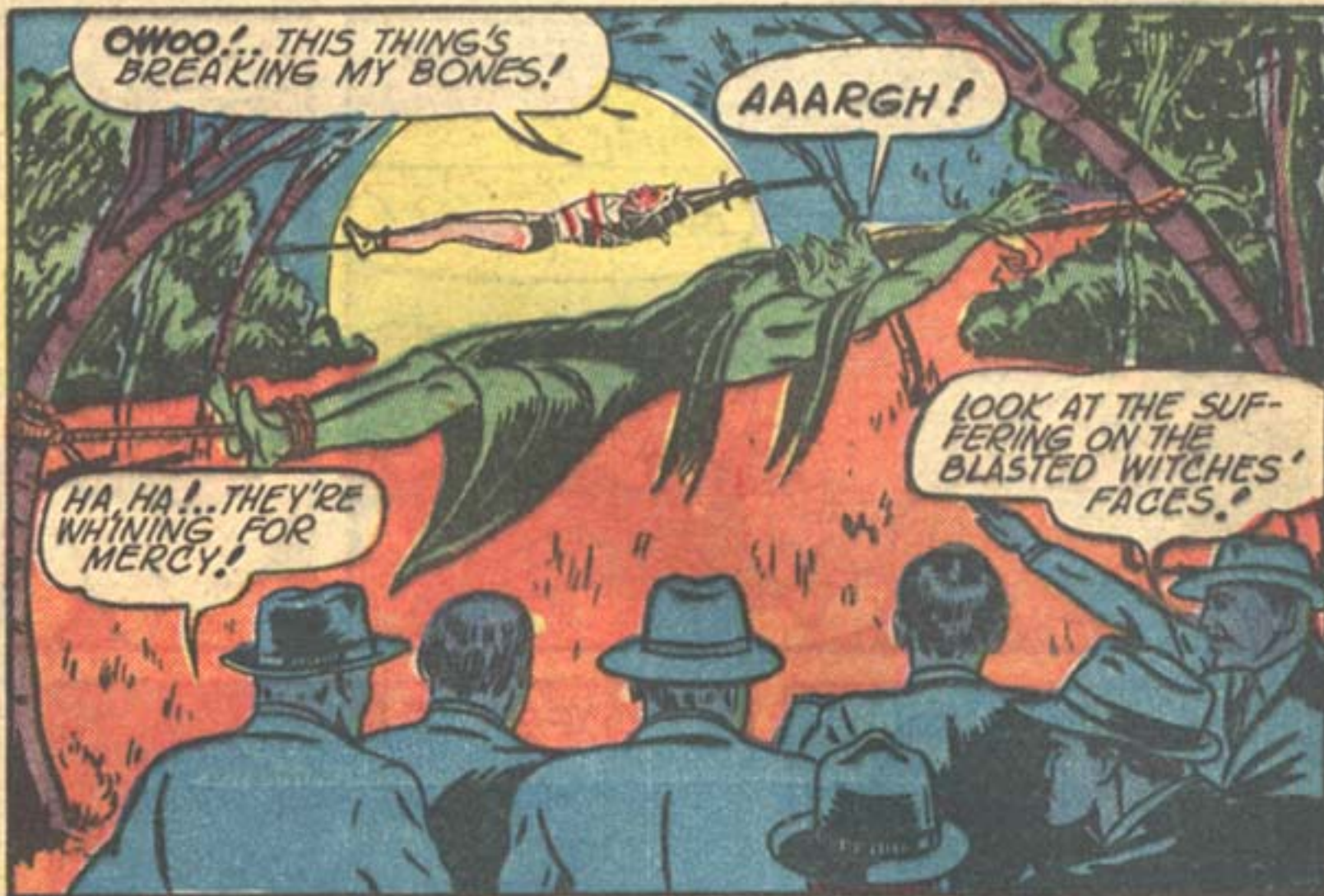


OWOO!.. THIS THING'S BREAKING MY BONES!

AAARGH!

HA HA!.. THEY'RE WHINING FOR MERCY!

LOOK AT THE SUFFERING ON THE BLASTED WITCHES' FACES!



..AND AGAIN THE WIZARD FLASHES TO THE SCENE...

WH..WHA!..! LOOK!



A MIGHTY WRENCH... AND OUT COMES THE SAPLING, ROOTS AND ALL...



A LITTLE MORE OF THAT AND YOU COULD HAVE USED ME FOR A TOOTHPICK!



WE KNOW YOU'RE THE WIZARD!.. BUT YOU CAN'T STOP US!.. THEY'RE WITCHES AND THEY'RE GOING TO DIE!

BE SENSIBLE GENTLEMEN! THIS ISN'T WITCHCRAFT!.. IT'S PLAIN 20th CENTURY MURDER!.. IN YOUR MORE RATIONAL MOMENTS, YOU KNOW AS WELL AS I DO, THERE NEVER WERE ANY SUCH CREATURES AS WITCHES!



YOU SEE! HE'S JUST AN IDIOT... A MAN CARRYING AROUND A PHONOGRAPH THAT MADE YOU THINK HE WAS A WOMAN!



THE ONE BEHIND IT ALL IS NITA HOLBROOK!.. THIS FELLOW IS HER FEEBLE-MINDED BROTHER WHO SHE PLANTED ON THE SCENES OF HER CRIMES TO TAKE THE BLAME! THAT VOICE ON THE PHONOGRAPH IS HER'S!

B.. BUT THAT BLOOD MESSAGE!

PROBABLY LIPSTICK OR RED PAINT, IF YOU LOOKED CLOSELY!

WHERE IS NITA HOLBROOK ANYWAY? SHE WAS WITH US! IN FACT, SHE STARTED US OFF!



JUST THEN...

A WOMAN'S VOICE!.. MORE TROUBLE!

IT'S DOWN THE ROAD, WIZARD!

HELP!  
HELP!  
HELP!



IT'S JANE!.. SHE'S CAUGHT NITA!

YOU VIXEN!.. TRY TO KILL ME, WILL YOU?

HELP!  
DON'T!



I SAW THE BULLETIN-BOARD MESSAGE AND I CAME OUT HERE!.. I RAN INTO THAT CAT COMING DOWN THE ROAD!

SHE WAS TRYING TO ESCAPE!



LATER...

SO YOU SEE, ROY WHEN YOU MENTIONED THE 'PHONOGRAPH, I KNEW THAT THE ONE RESPONSIBLE WAS RIGHT HERE IN TOWN!

GEE!.. 'N I THOUGHT YOU'D GONE OVERBOARD FOR THAT DAME! I FEEL LIKE A HEEL!.. C'MON, LET'S SQUARE YOU UP WITH JANE!



ER.. AH.. UH.. HELLO, JANE!

HIYA, DEMON REPORTER!

I JUST FINISHED TYPING UP NITA HOLBROOK'S CONFESSION!



SHE KILLED HER FIANCEE BECAUSE SHE WAS IN HIS WILL AS THE SOLE HEIR TO HIS FORTUNE, AND SHE LOVED HIS MONEY A LOT MORE THAN SHE DID HIM!

AND THEN ONE MURDER LED TO ANOTHER... LIKE IT USUALLY DOES, EH?



YES!.. AND THE WAY YOU WERE MAKING GOO GOO EYES AT HER.. YOU PROBABLY WOULD HAVE BEEN ONE OF HER VICTIMS, YOU... YOU... FATHEAD!

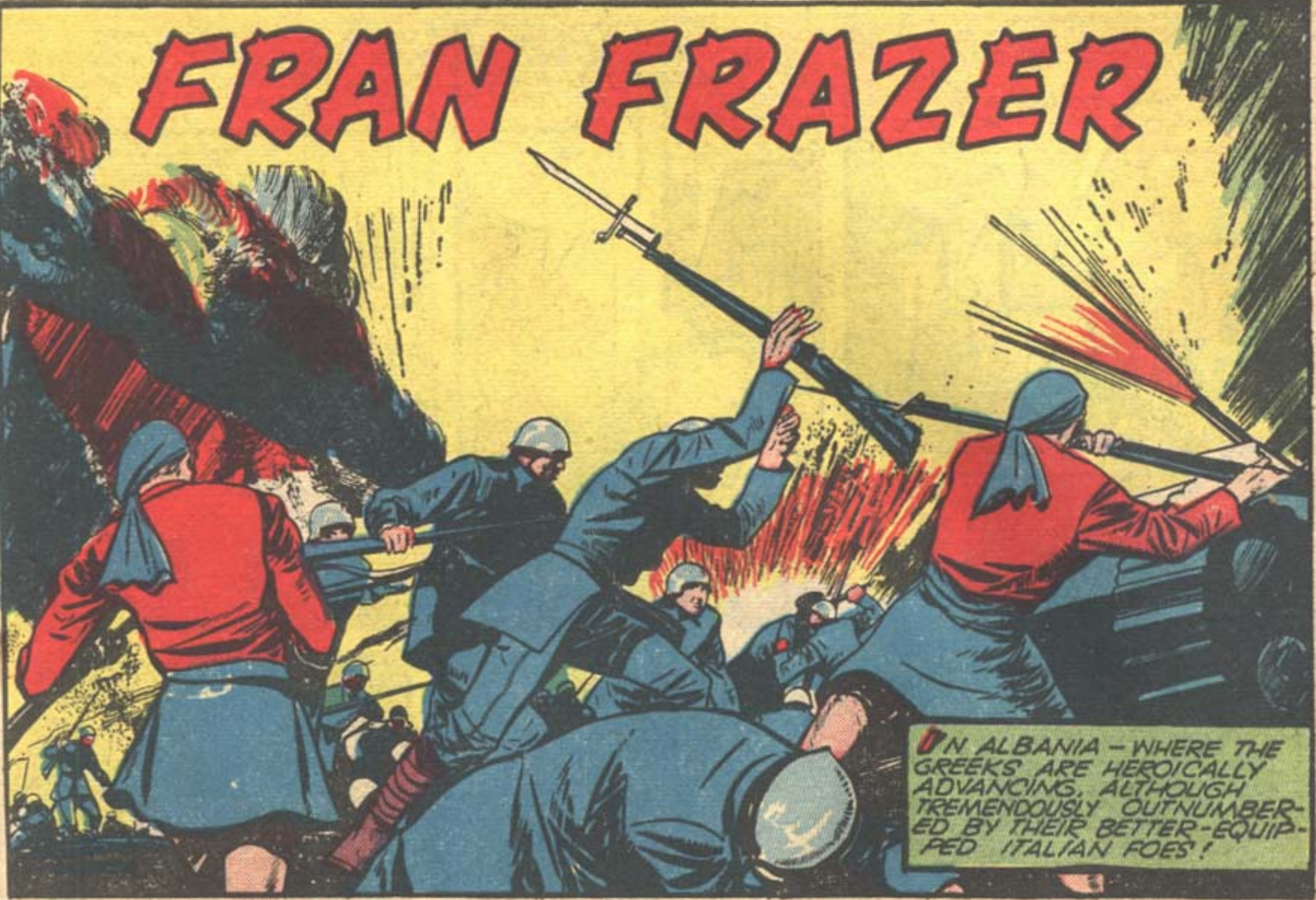
NOW WAIT A MINUTE JANE.. I.. THAT IS... AW, NUTS!



ANOTHER SMASH ADVENTURE WITH THE WIZARD AND ROY THE SUPER-BOY IS YOURS FOR THE ASKING IN THE NEXT ISSUE... AND ANOTHER ONE AFTER THAT!.. IN FACT, A HOMERUN EVERY TIME THEY ARE AT BAT!.. YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO MISS A SINGLE ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS, YOUR FAVORITE COMIC MAGAZINE!



# FRAN FRAZER



**I**N ALBANIA - WHERE THE GREEKS ARE HEROICALLY ADVANCING, ALTHOUGH TREMENDOUSLY OUTNUMBERED BY THEIR BETTER-EQUIPPED ITALIAN FOES!

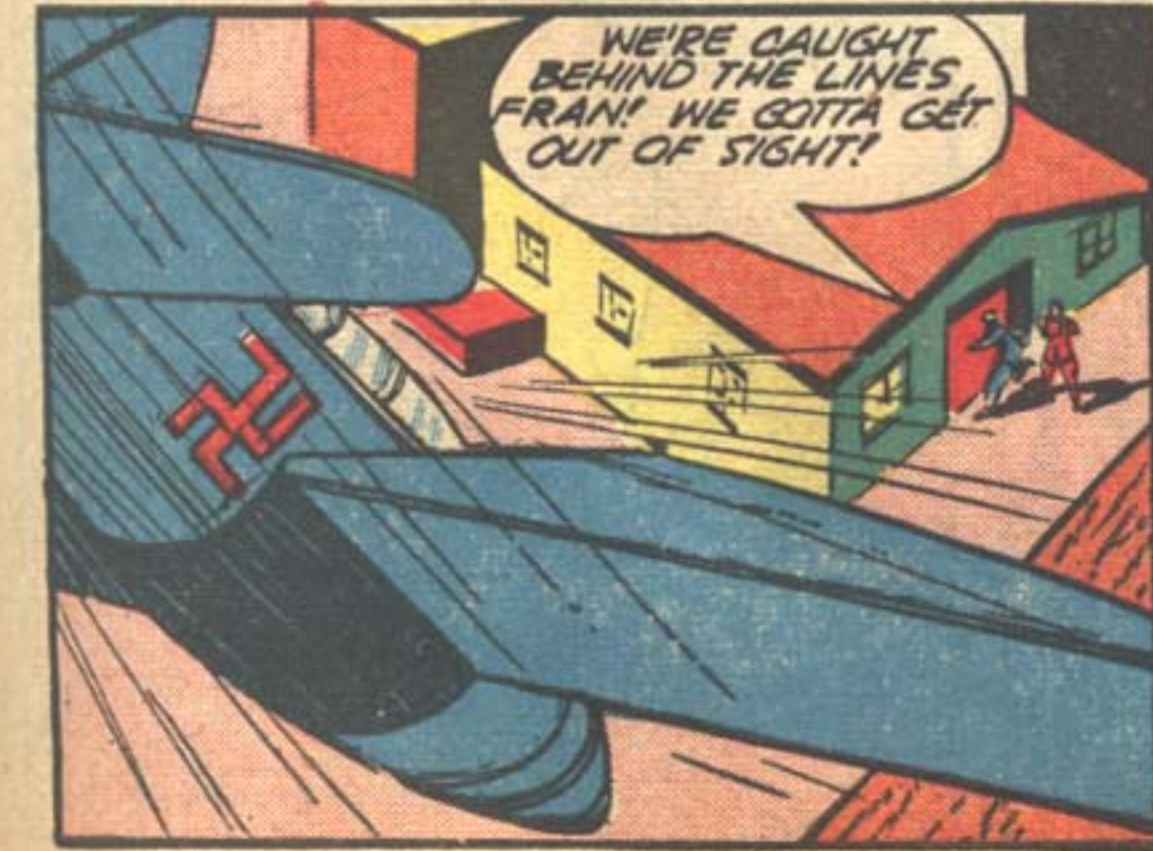


THINGS ARE GETTIN' TOO HOT, FRAN! LET'S BEAT IT!

WHAT! AND LOSE THESE SWELL SHOTS! NOT A CHANCE, HAL!



SUDDENLY, THERE IS A TERRIFIC SURGE OF ITALIAN INFANTRY AND THE GREEKS ARE PUSHED FARTHER AND FARTHER BACK!



WE'RE CAUGHT BEHIND THE LINES, FRAN! WE GOTTA GET OUT OF SIGHT!



THE ITALIANS SOON OCCUPY THE ENTIRE CITY!





CARRY THE WOUNDED INTO THE HOUSE!

YES, DOCTOR!



WOW! WE'RE SUNK NOW! THE SPAGHETTIS ARE COMIN' IN HERE!

COME ON! WE'LL HIDE IN THE CLOSET!



THE ITALIAN DOCTOR STARTS TO TREAT THE WOUNDED SOLDIERS, IN THE HOUSE WHERE FRAN AND HAL ARE HIDING!



HOW CAN I MEND THESE POOR FELLOWS' BONES WHEN I HAVE NO WAY OF LOCATING THE BREAKS! THEY WILL HAVE TO SUFFER UNTIL WE ARE ABLE TO TRANSFER THEM TO HOSPITALS!



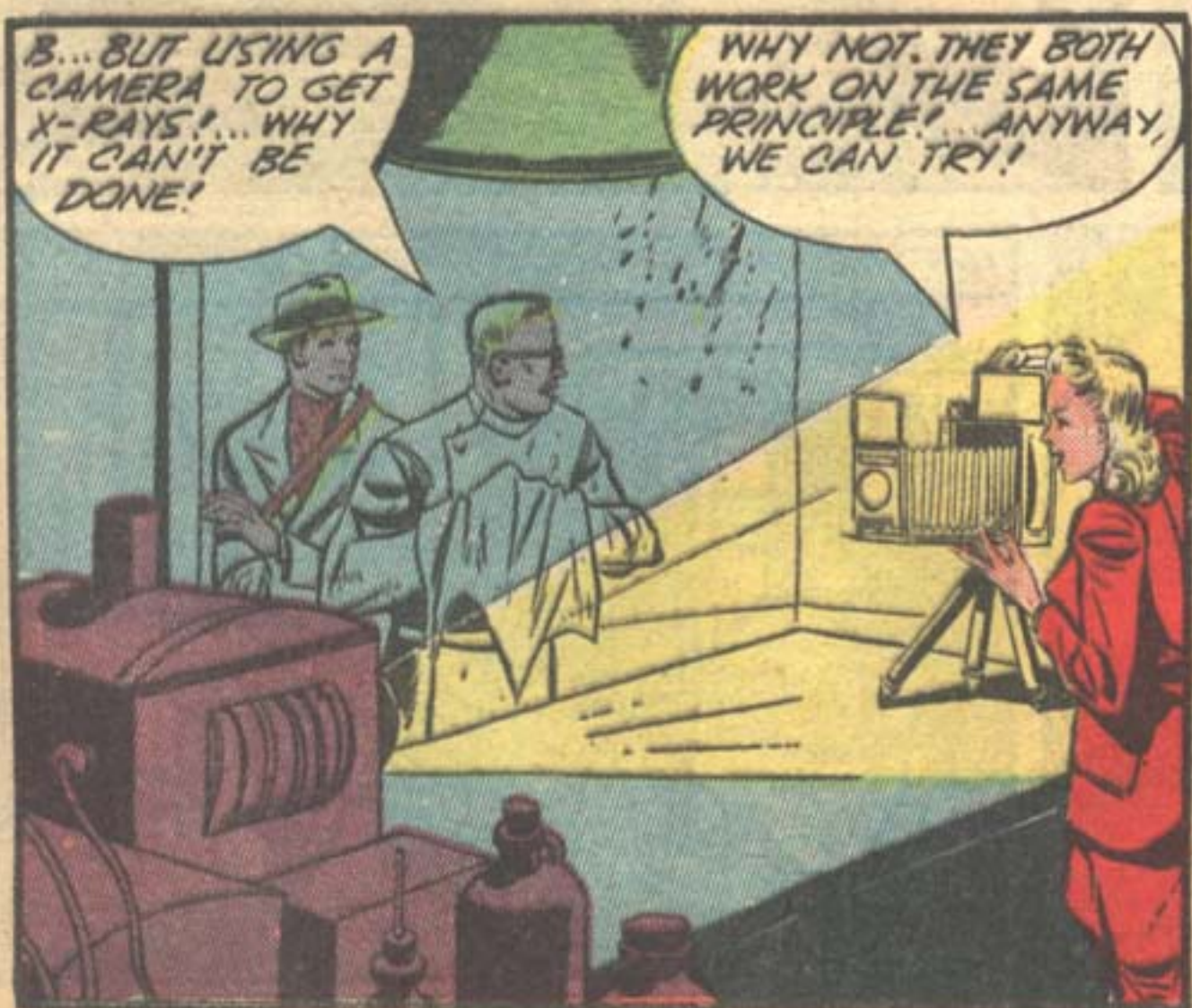
I'M GOING TO HELP THAT DOCTOR!

YOU'RE CRAZY! WE'LL BE SHOT AS SPIES!



WH...WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE? WHO ARE YOU?

AN AMERICAN PHOTOGRAPHER, DOCTOR!... I THINK I CAN HELP YOU!



B... BUT USING A CAMERA TO GET X-RAYS!... WHY IT CAN'T BE DONE!

WHY NOT. THEY BOTH WORK ON THE SAME PRINCIPLE!... ANYWAY, WE CAN TRY!



LATER!

SACRE MIA! IT WORKED!... IF ONLY THERE WERE MORE PEOPLE WHO HATED HUMAN SUFFERINGS, THERE WOULD BE NO WARS



SUDDENLY...



VAS IST!

HOLY MACKERAL-GERMANS!



THOSE STORIES OF GERMAN RE-ENFORCEMENTS FOR THE ITALIANS ARE TRUE AFTER ALL

YES! BUT YOU'LL NEVER LIVE TO TELL ABOUT IT! YOU HAVE BEEN CAUGHT WITH A CAMERA ... YOU WILL BE SHOT AS A SPY!



WAIT! YOU CAN'T! THEY DELIBERATELY EXPOSED THEMSELVES TO HELP OUR MEN!

THAT IS NO CONCERN OF MINE! TAKE THEM AWAY, MEN!



YOU AND YOUR FATHEAD IDEAS! ... NOW WHAT!

YOU TELL ME! ... I'M SORRY I GOT YOU INTO THIS, HAL!

SICK? WHY, NOBODY'S...



JUST THEN THE DOCTOR ENTERS.

WHICH ONE OF YOU IS SICK?



FRAN GETS A FLASH OF INTUITION

WHY... IT'S HAL, DOCTOR! HE'S GOT A BELLYACHE!

OOF! ... WHY... UH... YEAH! BELLYACHE!



WHILE THE DOCTOR PRETENDS TO TREAT HAL, HE WHISPERS TO FRAN!

I'VE PUT BLANKS IN GUNS OF SHOOTING SQUAD! ... PRETEND TO BE SHOT!

OOO!.. MY STOMACH!



HERE! TOMATOES! YOU KNOW WHAT TO DO?

YES! THANKS, DOC!

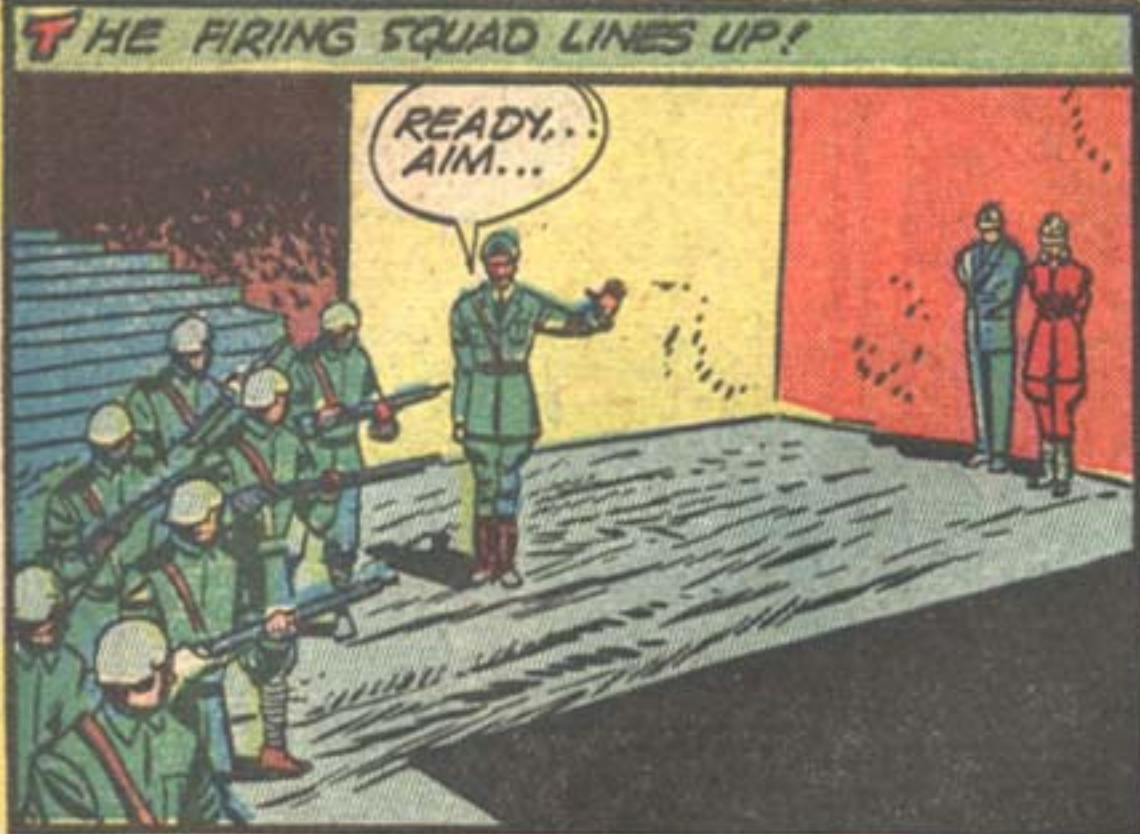


LATER...

WELL, HERE WE GO! HOPE THE DOC ISN'T A PRACTICAL JOKER!

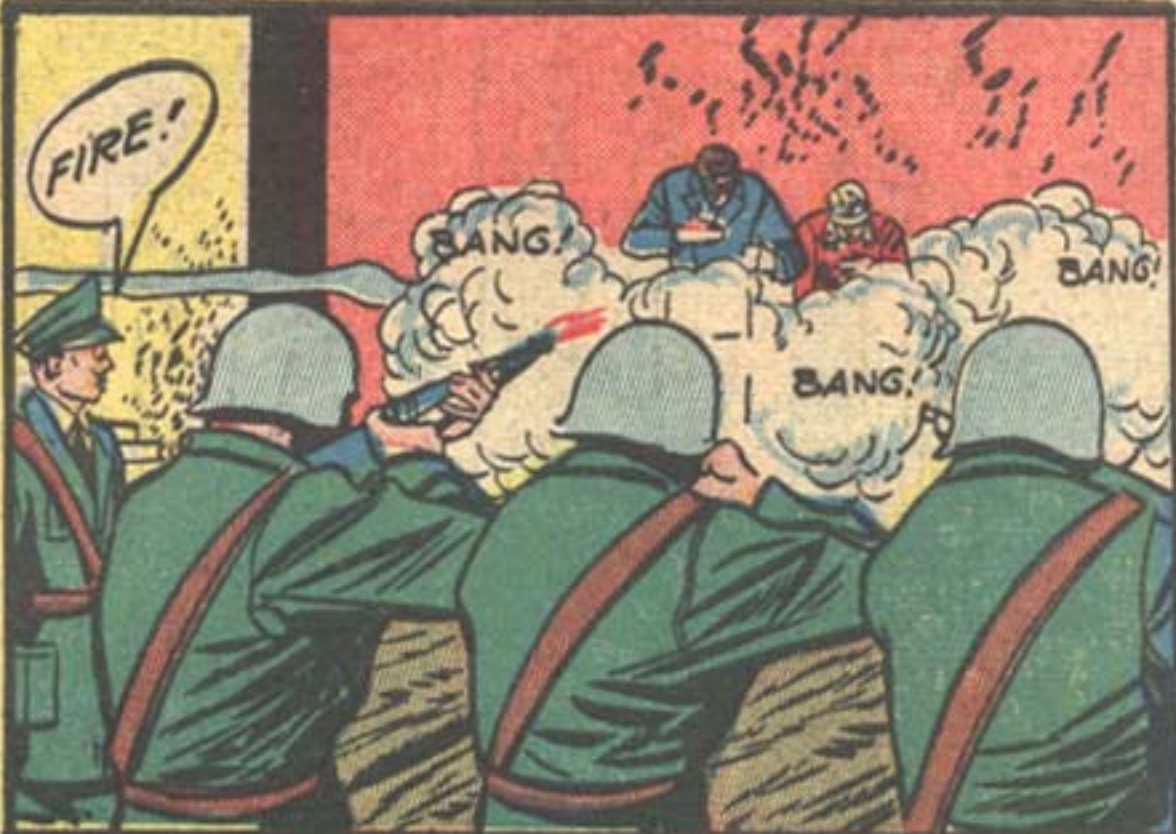
I DON'T THINK HE IS... DON'T FORGET ABOUT THAT TOMATO, HAL!





THE FIRING SQUAD LINES UP!

READY... AIM...



FIRE!

BANG!

BANG!

BANG!



EVERYONE OF THOSE BULLETS FOUND ITS MARK!... LOOK AT THE BLOOD! THEY'RE DEAD ALL RIGHT!



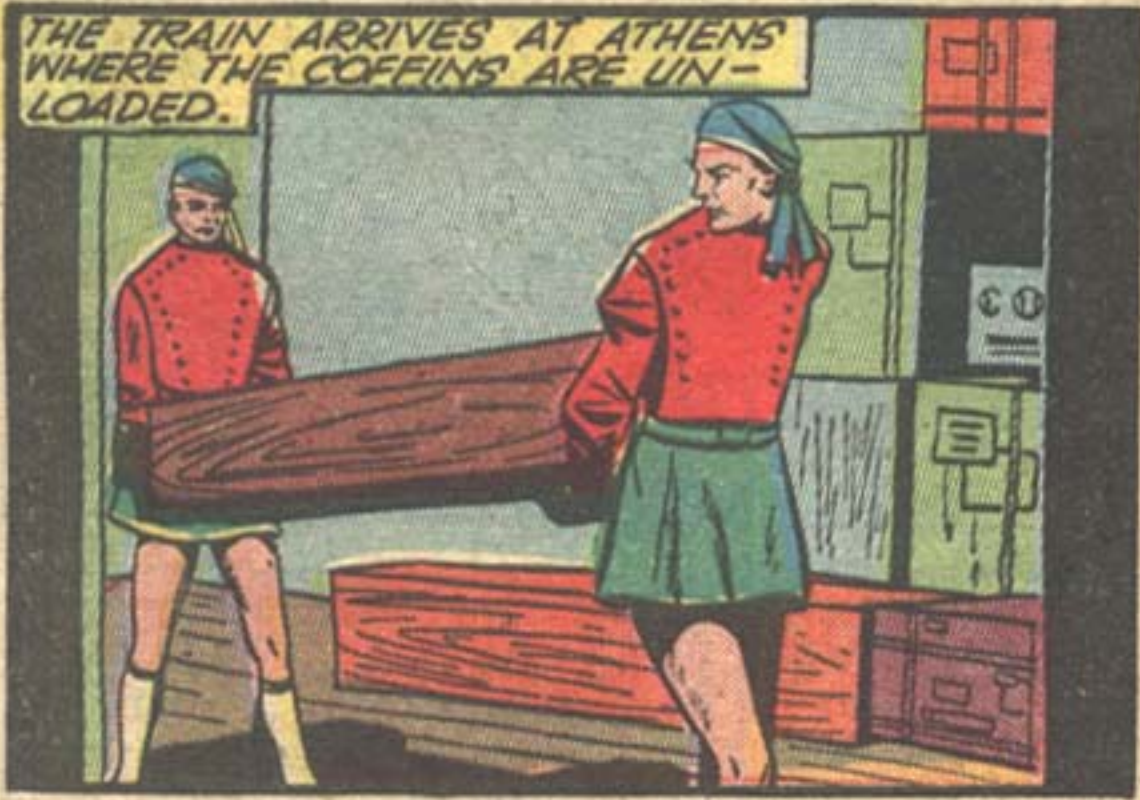
THE DOCTOR HAS HAL AND FRAN PLACED IN COFFINS!

MAY I SHIP THEIR BODIES BACK TO THEIR HOMES?

ACH! SENTIMENTAL FOOL! ALL RIGHT GO AHEAD!



A TRAIN BEARING THE COFFINS SPEEDS TOWARD GREECE!



THE TRAIN ARRIVES AT ATHENS WHERE THE COFFINS ARE UNLOADED.



LEMME OUT OF HERE! I'M BEGINNING TO FEEL LIKE A CORPSE!

G... GHOSTS!



A GIRL?... AND SHE'S NOT DEAD!

HIYA!... I WOULD HAVE BEEN IF IT HADN'T BEEN FOR THE AIRHOLES IN THE COFFIN!



AND WHAT A SHOT I GOT OF THAT GERMAN OFFICER WHEN HE BENT OVER ME! PROOF ENOUGH ABOUT GERMAN RE-ENFORCEMENTS TO MAKE A REAL SCOOP!



HEY FRAN! 'ZAT YOU! OPEN THIS COFFIN LID!

NOT 'TIL I'VE GOTTEN MY STORY IN FIRST! HERE GUARD! FREE HIM IN ABOUT TEN MINUTES!

FRAN FRAZER SCOOPS THE WORLD IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP-NOTCH COMICS!



# KEITH KORNELL

## WEST POINTER



KEITH KORNELL, SERVING TEMPORARILY AS LIEUTENANT IN A DRAFT CAMP, IS IN TOWN WITH A FEW OF THE PRIVATES OF HIS PLATOON.







SOLDIER PIG, EH? IN THE AMERICAN ARMY WE TALK WITH OUR FISTS... AS WELL AS WITH OUR MOUTHS.

OONK!



HERE! WHAT'S GOING ON?

WOW!... THE C.O.!



YOU SAW THE WHOLE THING, LIEUTENANT KORNELL! WHO STARTED THIS BRAWL?

WHY... ER... YOU SEE.. S/R..



PRIVATE HUTCH REPORT TO HIT HIM FIRST, THE GUARD-HOUSE, PRIVATE ONLY.... HUTCH!



GEE!... 'N I THOUGHT THE LOOEY WAS MY BUDDY... TURNIN' ME IN JUST BECAUSE I STOOD UP FER MY RIGHTS... LIKE A SOLDIER SHOULD!



HELLO, HUTCH!... GLAD TO SEE YOU OUT OF THE GUARD-HOUSE!

I DON'T HAVE TO TALK TO YOU, LIEUTENANT, EXCEPT IN THE LINE OF DUTY!

ONE WEEK LATER...



THAT NIGHT / ARMY LIFE, PHOOEY!... THEY WANT MICE, NOT MEN!



SO YOU DON'T LIKE THE ARMY, EH!... HAVE A DRINK WITH US! I'D LIKE TO TALK TO YOU!

WHAT ABOUT?





WHY DON'T YOU JOIN UP WITH A REAL ARMY—OUR BUND CAMP? WE'RE AMERICAN PATRIOTS, TOO. AND WE'LL TREAT YOU LIKE A MAN!



SURE! WHY NOT... I'M TIRED OF BEIN' KICKED AROUND... WHAT DO I HAVE TO DO?



ONE WEEK LATER!  
OFFICERS!... RIFLES HAVE BEEN MYSTERIOUSLY DISAPPEARING!... CHECK WITH YOUR PLATOONS AND SEE IF YOU CAN FIND ANYTHING!... DISMISSED!



LATER  
HUTCH IS STILL SORE AT ME, THE LUNKHEAD... I'M GOING OVER TO HIS BUNK RIGHT NOW AND TELL HIM IT WAS MY DUTY TO TELL THE TRUTH ABOUT THAT FIGHT!



HEY!... WHO'S THAT COMING OUT OF THE ARSENAL!... WHY, HE'S CARRYING OUT RIFLES!



HEY!... WHERE ARE YOU GOING WITH THOSE RIFLES?... WHY... IT'S HUTCH!

KORNELL, HUH?



OOOPH!

HERE'S SOMETHING I OWE YOU FER A LONG TIME!



GEE! I SHOULDN'T A HIT THE LOOEY SO HARD.... AH, NUTS!... HE HAD IT COMIN' TO HIM!



WHEW!... I'M STILL WOOZY.... GOTTA GET UP AND FOLLOW HUTCH. GOTTA SEE WHAT HE'S UP TO!



AT THE BUND CAMP

THIS IS THE LAST BATCH O'RIFLES YOU'LL GET! LIEUTENANT KORNELL TRIED TO STOP ME!

WHAT?



IF HE REPORTS THIS, ITS TROUBLE FOR ALL OF US! GO BACK QUICK... AND SHUT HIS MOUTH — PERMANENTLY!

WHAT?... ME KNOCK OFF MY PAL..... GO DUCK YOUR HEAD!



HE'S OF NO MORE USE TO US.... WE GET RID OF HIM TOO, EH?

MURDER, HUH?... I'M REPORTIN' YA MYSELF.... 'N TAKE MY MEDICINE!



HEY... WHAT?

SO YOU WANT TO REPORT US, EH?



WOW!... I GOT HERE JUST IN TIME! LOOKS LIKE HUTCH GOT HIMSELF IN DUTCH WITH THE KRAUTS!



KEEP PUNCHING, PAL... I'M COMING!







HERE, SCHNITZEL! HAVE YOURSELF A NAP!

HAALP!

UGH!



GRAB ONE OF THOSE RIFLES AND SHOOT INTO THE AIR, HUTCH! MAYBE THE ARMY BOYS'LL HEAR IT!

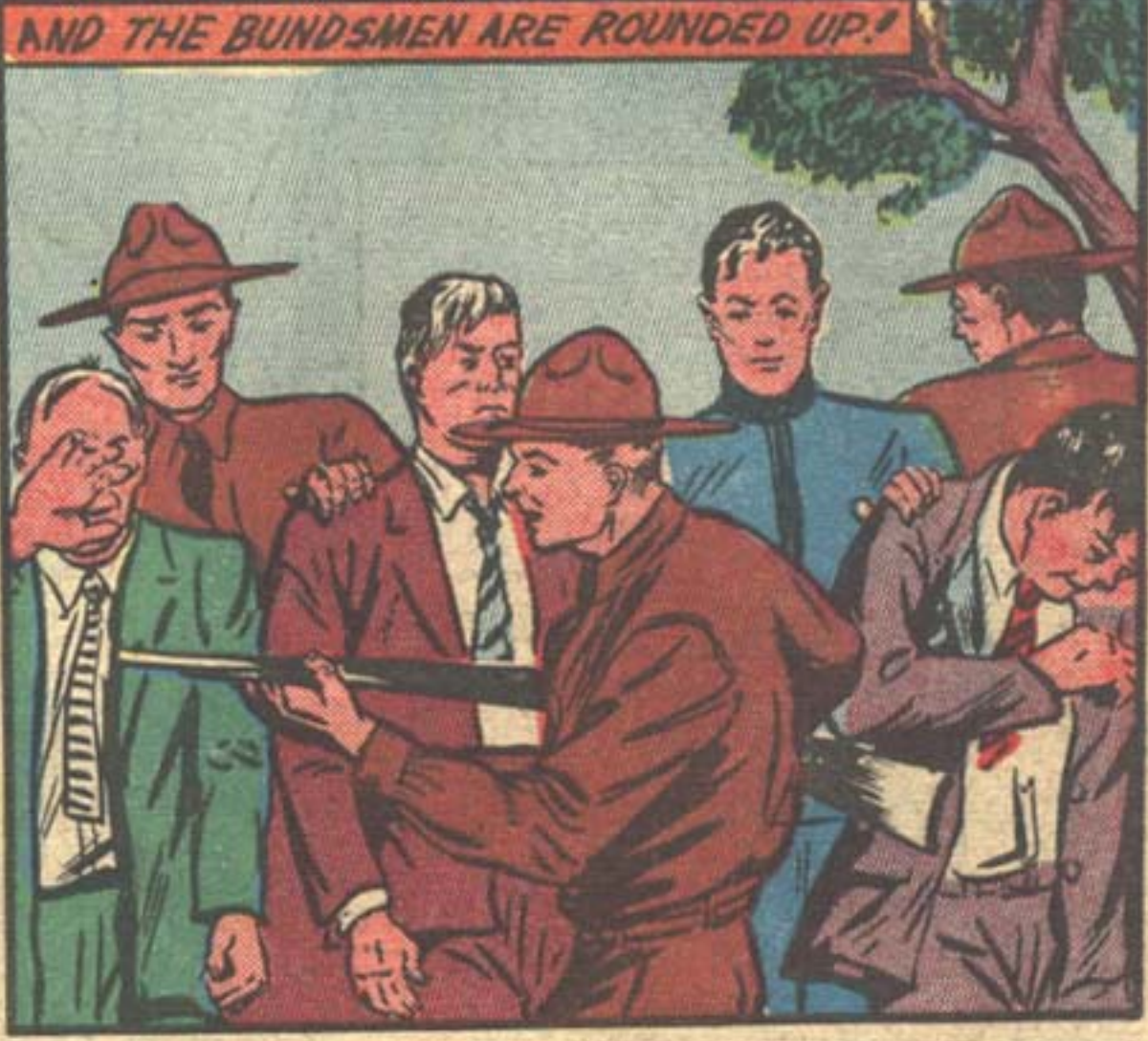


I'LL USE A RIFLE TOO... BUT FOR A DIFFERENT REASON!

AND BANG!



KEITH'S STRATEGY IS EFFECTIVE, THE SOLDIERS SOON COME RUNNING!



AND THE BUNDSMEN ARE ROUNDED UP!



IT WAS ALL MY FAULT, SIR!... I SWIPED THOSE RIFLES AND I.....

HMM!..... I'LL DEAL WITH YOU IN THE MORNING!



NEXT MORNING!

ON LIEUTENANT KORNEILL'S RECOMMENDATION, YOU WILL BE LET OFF LIGHTLY THIS TIME, PRIVATE HUTCH!

THANK YOU, SIR!



GEE, LOOEY... I WUZ A HEEL.. WILL YA SHAKE?

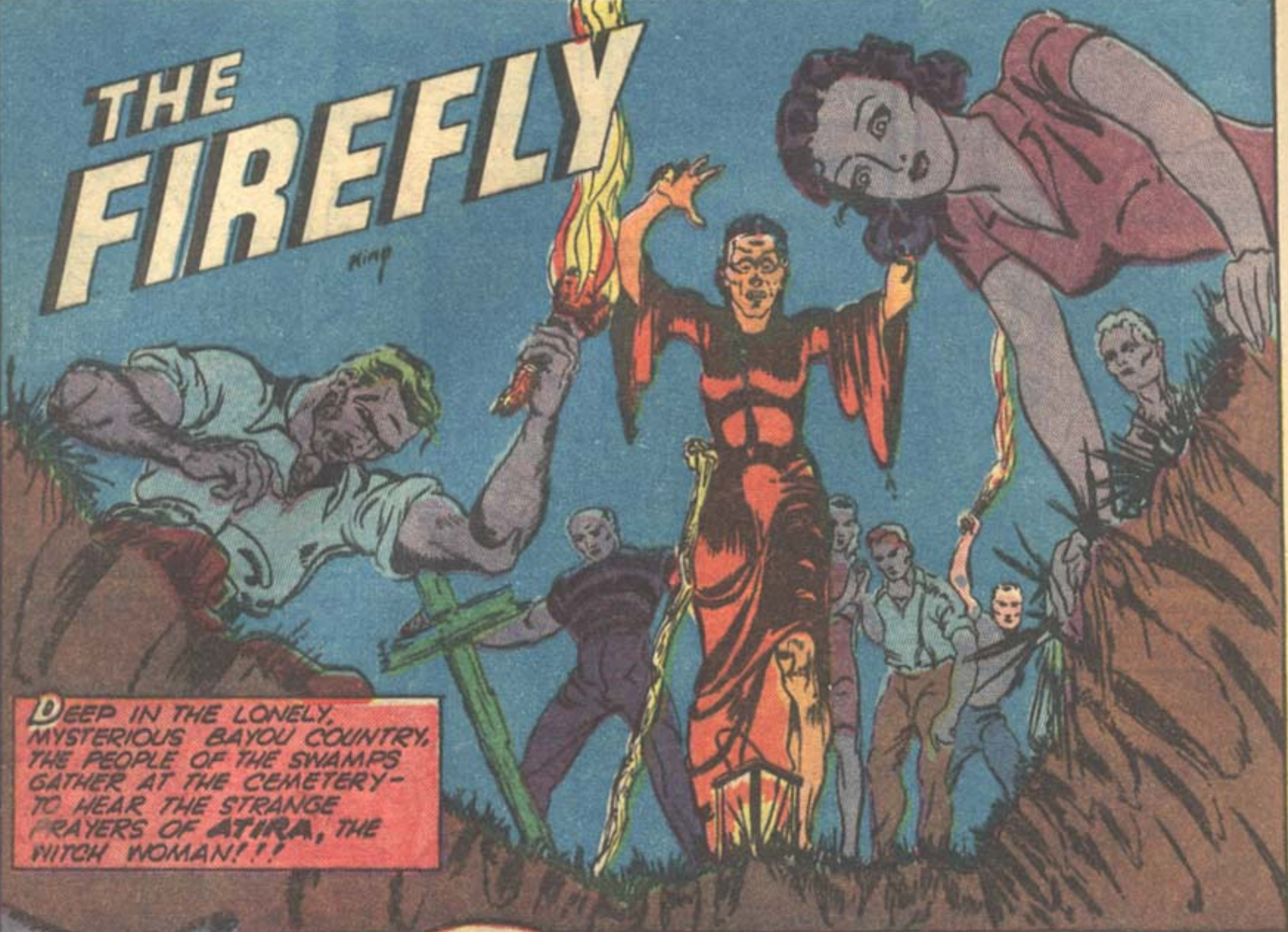
SURE HUTCH!.. WE ALL MAKE MISTAKES!.. BUT IT TAKES A MAN TO ADMIT IT!

YOU'LL GET AN EVEN GREATER THRILL WITH KEITH KORNEILL, WEST POINTER, IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS



# THE FIREFLY

King



DEEP IN THE LONELY, MYSTERIOUS BAYOU COUNTRY, THE PEOPLE OF THE SWAMPS GATHER AT THE CEMETERY - TO HEAR THE STRANGE PRAYERS OF ATIRA, THE WITCH WOMAN!!!



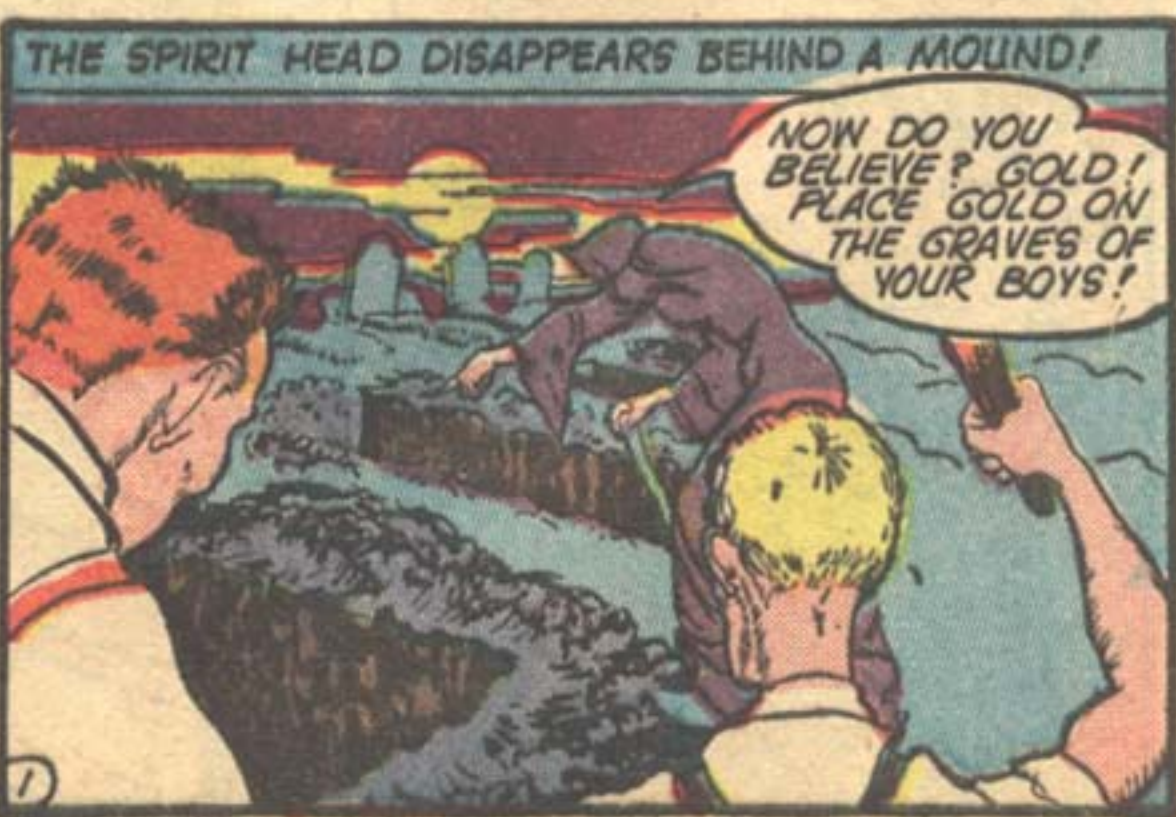
HEED MY WORDS! IF YOU WANT YOUR SONS' BODIES TO RETURN FROM THEIR GRAVES IN THE SEA, PLACE PIECES OF GOLD ON THEIR OPEN SEPULCHERS! GOLD PIECES WILL BRING THEM BACK - ONLY GOLD AND NOTHING ELSE!



YOU SEE! THERE IS MY SON'S SPIRIT! BECAUSE I PLACED GOLD ON HIS GRAVE!



YES, MOTHER! I HAVE RETURNED FROM THE SEA... BUT I CANNOT REST UNTIL THE SONS WHO DROWNED WITH ME ALSO RETURN! TELL THEIR FAMILIES TO PLACE GOLD ON THEIR GRAVES! THEIR SONS AND I WANT TO REST IN ETERNAL PEACE!



THE SPIRIT HEAD DISAPPEARS BEHIND A MOUND!

NOW DO YOU BELIEVE? GOLD! PLACE GOLD ON THE GRAVES OF YOUR BOYS!





MY BROTHER!  
WHERE IS MY  
BROTHER?



JEANNE EGART, WHOSE BEAUTY IS KNOWN THROUGHOUT THE BAYOU, RUSHES TO THE CEMETERY!

WHAT UNHOLY THINGS ARE YOU GETTING THESE PEOPLE TO DO, ATIRA? AND WHERE IS MY BROTHER?

YOU LITTLE FOOL! YOU DARE BREAK IN ON A RELIGIOUS CEREMONY? GO!



REALIZING THE FOLLY OF ARGUING WITH THE WITCH-WOMAN, JEANNE LEAVES!



THE GIRL HURRIES THROUGH THE SWAMP TO A SMALL SHACK, WHERE HARLEY HUDSON IS BUSILY AT WORK ON A NEW SERUM!



MISTER HUDSON!  
YOU MUST HELP ME!  
YOU MUST!



I JUST KNOW SOMETHING HORRIBLE IS GOING TO HAPPEN!

YOU GO BACK AND KEEP YOUR EYES ON THEM! I'LL BE ALONG IN A FEW MINUTES!



JEANNE TELLS HUDSON OF THE RITES AT THE CEMETERY!



I DON'T KNOW MUCH ABOUT THE "WITCHCRAFT" OF THE BAYOU COUNTRY - BUT I HAVE A HUNCH IT'S NOT WHAT IT SEEMS TO BE! THIS LOOKS LIKE A GOOD TIME FOR THE FIREFLY TO ENTER THE PICTURE!



JEANNE MAKES HER WAY BACK THROUGH THE SWAMP TOWARD THE CEMETERY!



HE, HE! YOU SEE? WHILE YOU'VE BEEN GONE ANOTHER SON HAS RETURNED TO HIS GRAVE! LOOK! I'LL PROVE IT TO YOU!



THERE IS THE BODY - HOME FROM THE SEA! AND ALL BECAUSE HIS MOTHER SPRINKLED GOLD COINS ON HIS BURIAL PLACE!



EVEN NOW SHE PRAYS IN THANKFULNESS FOR HER SON'S RETURN! NOW WHAT HAVE YOU TO SAY?



I STILL SAY YOU'RE ALL BEING DUPED BY SOMEONE! HOW DOES THAT WOMAN KNOW THAT'S THE BODY OF HER SON? IT COULD BE ANY MAN - EVEN - EVEN MY BROTHER. IF YOU'VE KILLED HIM -



SILENCE!

DRIVE HER AWAY!

SEND THE DISBELIEVER OUT OF THE CEMETERY!

KEEP AWAY FROM ME!



BUT STREAKING THROUGH THE SWAMPS, NOT FAR AWAY - THE FIREFLY!





JUST A MINUTE, YOU PEOPLE!



WHO IS THIS THING? WHERE DID HE COME FROM?



WHOA! THAT HEAD! WHERE'D IT COME FROM?

FROM THE SEA! I CAME FROM THE SEA TO REST!



DON'T TELL ME A SPOOK IS AFRAID OF A MERE MAN!



GONE! THAT HEAD DISAPPEARED AS IF IT WERE A GHOST! I WONDER-



LOOK INTO THE GRAVE, STRANGER! SEE! THE BODY OF A BOY HAS RETURNED FROM THE SEA TO LIE IN PEACE IN HIS FAMILY'S GRAVE!



THE FIREFLY PEERS INTO THE TOMB...

HMM! HIS FACE IS UNRECOGNIZABLE! BUT ONLY BECAUSE IT'S BEEN EATEN AWAY BY ACID!



AN UNEARTHLY SHRIEK ECHOES AND REECHES THROUGH THE BURIAL GROUNDS!

WHAT WAS THAT? IT SOUNDED LIKE JEANNE!





GOOD HEAVENS!  
THAT HEAD! IT'S  
GOT JEANNE!



HELP!  
SAVE ME!



THE FIREFLY RACES OVER  
A MOUND - AND THEN!  
GONE! BOTH THE HEAD  
AND THE GIRL! HOW  
CAN SUCH THINGS  
BE?



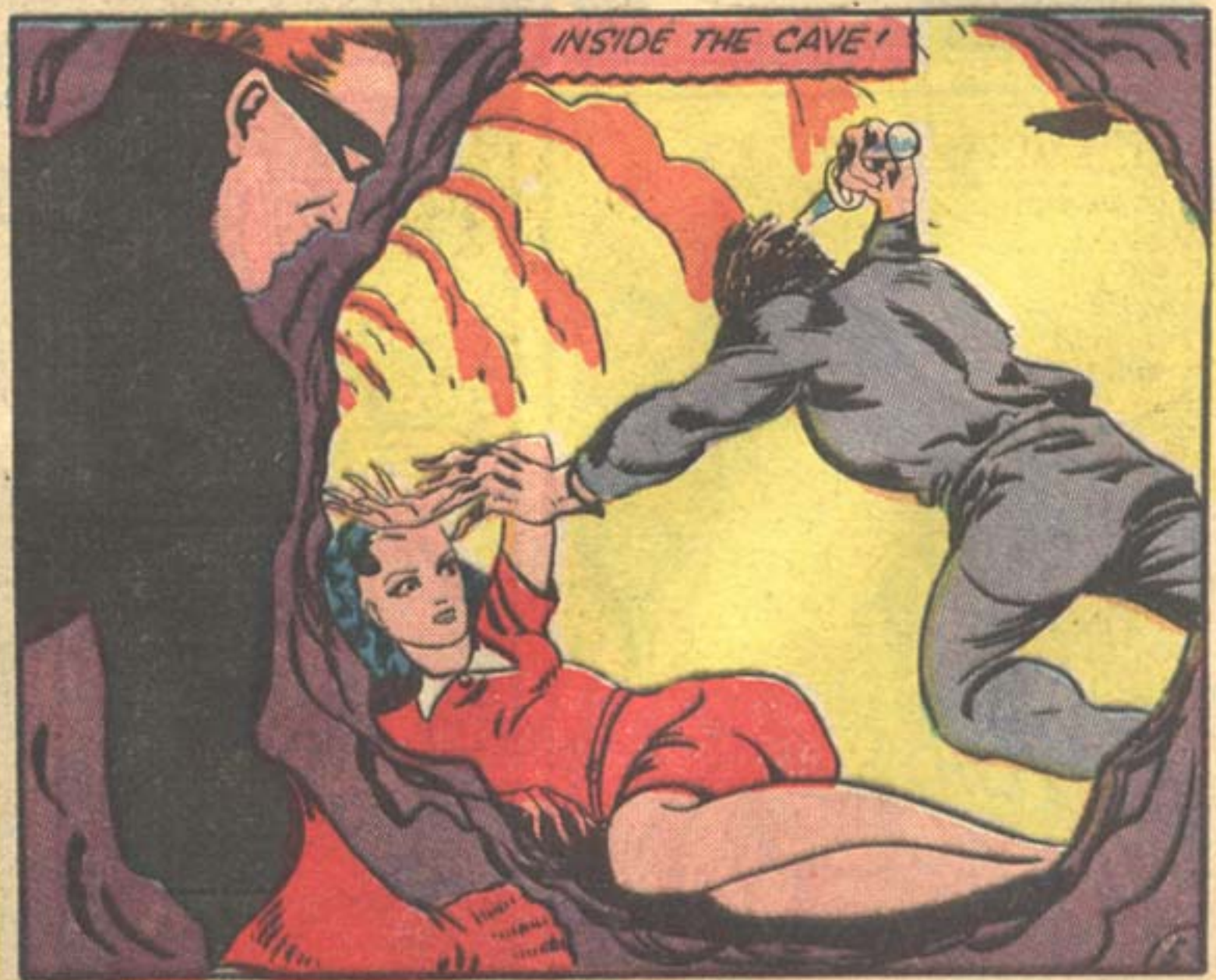
IT HAPPENED  
EXACTLY AT THIS  
SPOT! BUT I DON'T  
- WAIT A MINUTE!  
MAYBE **THAT'S**  
THE ANSWER!



A LUMINOUS GLOW AP-  
PEARS ON THE SIDE OF  
THE MOUND!



HM! A  
SECRET DOOR  
UNDERNEATH THIS  
GRASS FLAP!



INSIDE THE CAVE!





SO IT'S A FIGHT YOU'RE LOOKIN' FOR, HUH? ANYTHING YOU SAY!

HERE IT IS! NOW-GOF!

I'M AFRAID YOU'RE IN FOR A SHOCK, JEANNE! THIS MADMAN KILLED YOUR BROTHER AND THREW HIS BODY IN THE GRAVE!

YOUR MOTHER ATIRA, REALLY BELIEVED YOUR GHOST RETURNED FROM THE SEA! SHE'S GOING TO BE DISAPPOINTED WHEN SHE SEES YOU ALIVE!

HERE'S YOUR GOLD-STEALING GHOST!

AS JEANNE LEAVES THE CAVE, THE FIREFLY DRAGS THE "GHOST" TO HIS FEET!

THAT'S MY SON! MY SON! HOW-WHY-?

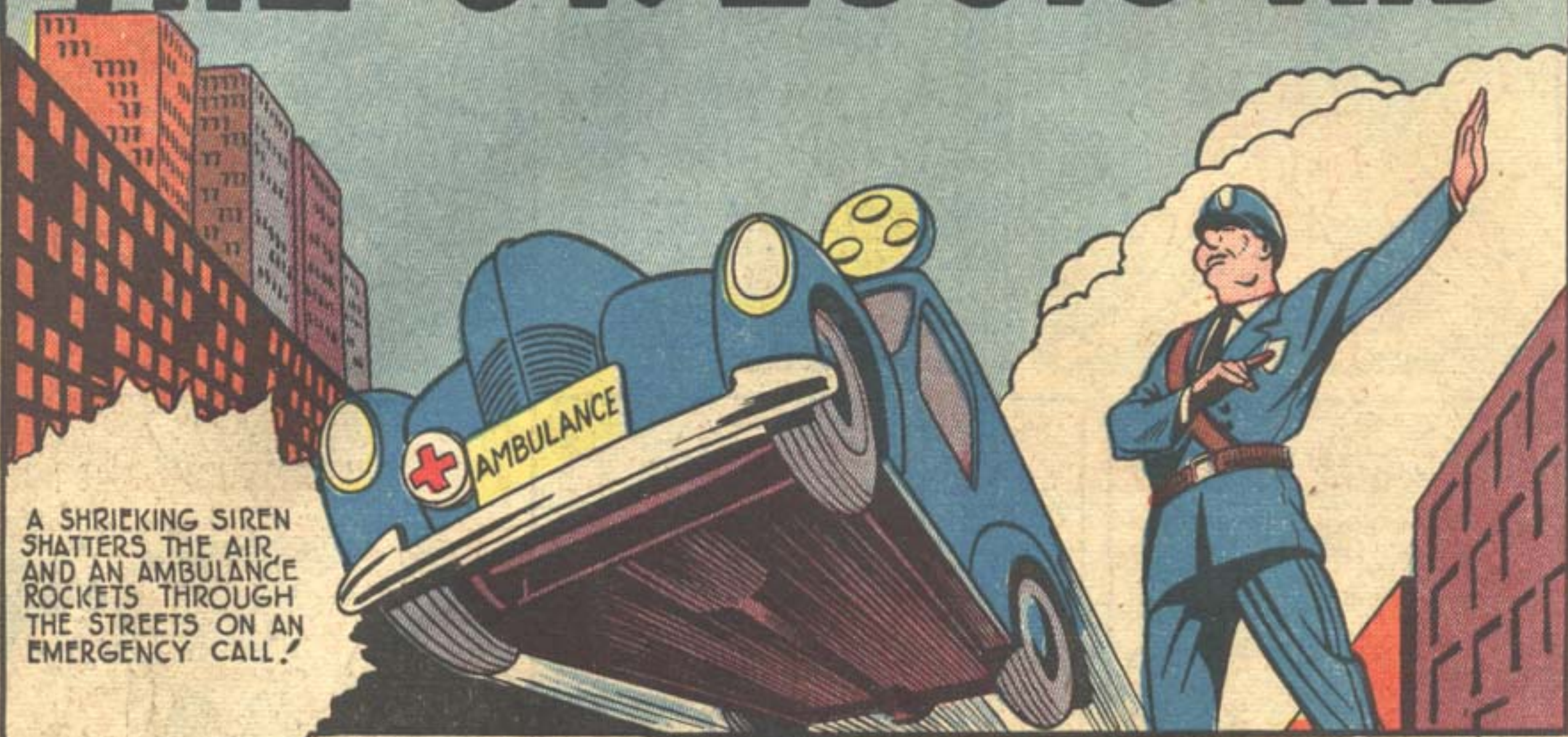
YOUR SON WAS NOT DROWNED WITH THE OTHER BOYS, ATIRA! HE SAVED HIS OWN LIFE AND CAME BACK HERE TO GET SOME EASY MONEY OUT OF YOU AND YOUR FRIENDS! THAT LUMINOUS MASK HE WORE GAVE THE DESIRED EFFECT, BUT SOME OF THE PHOSPHORUS GAVE OFF ON THE SECRET DOORWAY IN THE MOUND! THAT GAVE ME THE CLUE I NEEDED TO GET TO THE BOTTOM OF THIS CASE!

GOOD-BYE, FIREFLY!

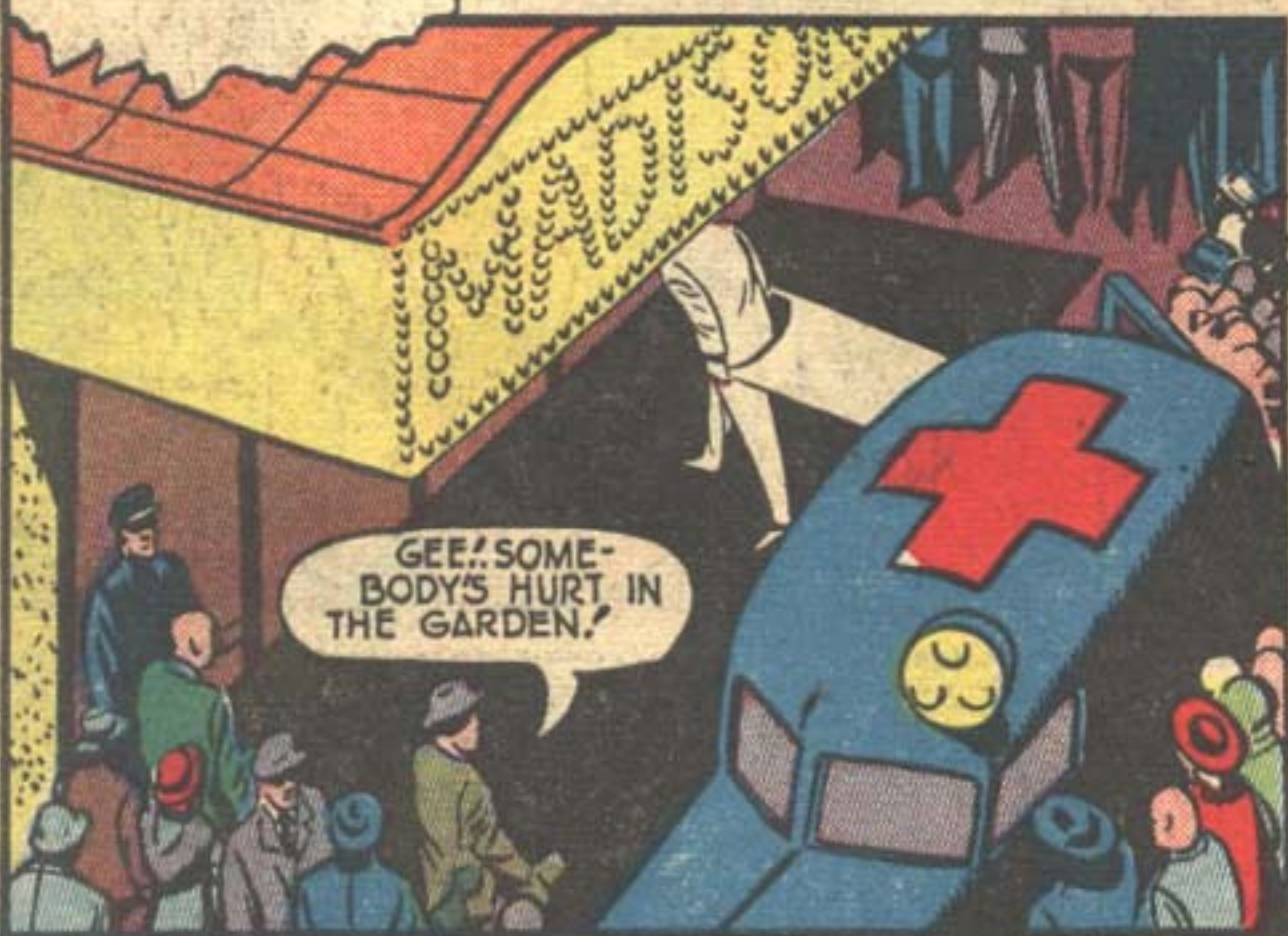
THE FIREFLY RACES ON TO MORE MYSTERIOUS ADVENTURES IN NEXT MONTH'S TOP NOTCH COMICS!



# THE ST. LOUIS KID



A SHRIEKING SIREN SHATTERS THE AIR, AND AN AMBULANCE ROCKETS THROUGH THE STREETS ON AN EMERGENCY CALL!



GEE! SOMEBODY'S HURT IN THE GARDEN!



WOW! IT'S MASHER JOHNSON! THE ST. LOUIS KID'S OPPONENT! LOOKS LIKE HE GOT CAUGHT IN A HAMBURGER MACHINE!



GOSH! YA SHOULDN'TA HIT THE MASHER SO HARD, KID!

I ASKED THE DOCTOR, WINDY! HE'LL BE OKAY...JUST A FEW DAYS IN THE HOSPITAL!



NEXT DAY, THE KID CALLS ON HIS SWEETHEART, MARY MOLLOY





HIYA, MRS. MOLLOY!... HIYA, POP!... MARY HOME?

SHE'LL BE RIGHT OUT, JIM!

WELL, KID! YA WENT TO TOWN LAST NIGHT, EH?



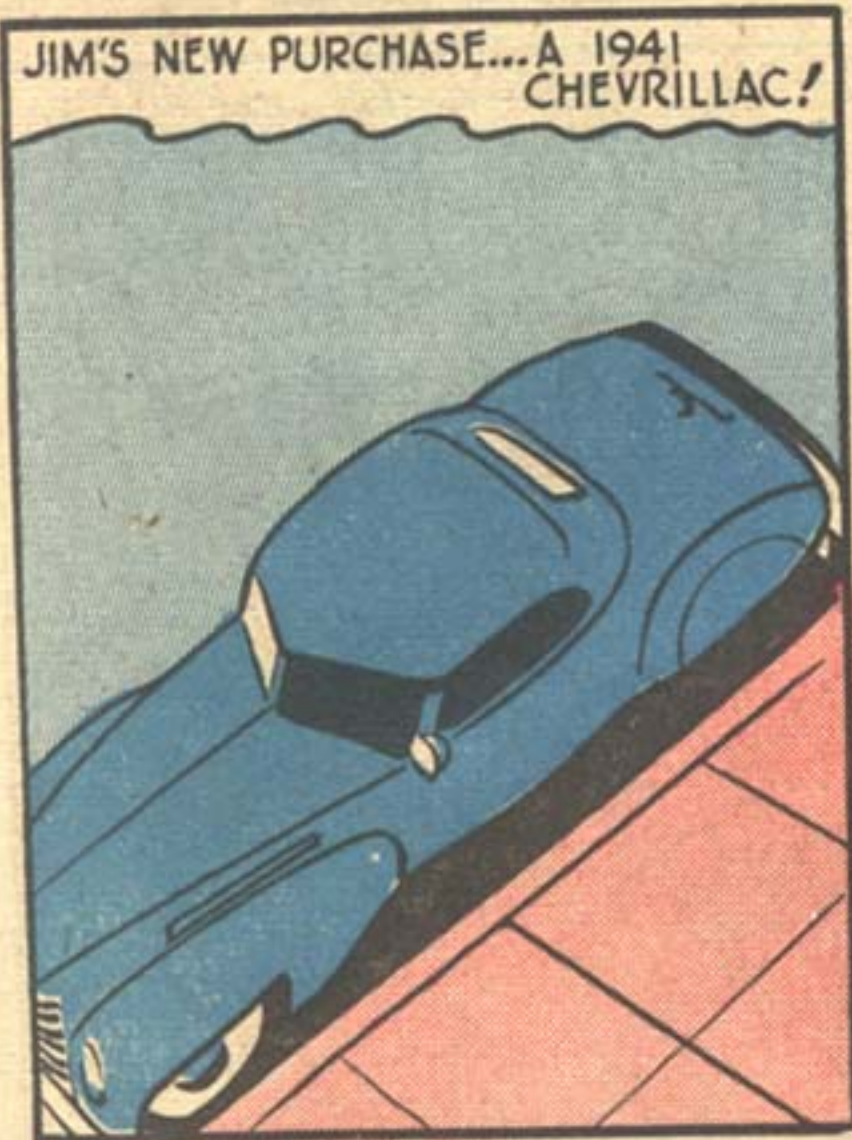
ER... AH... I GOT A S'PRISE TO SHOW YA, MARY!

YOU'RE SURPRISE ENOUGH FOR ME, JIM!



LOOK! I JUST BOUGHT IT THIS MORNING!

QH, JIM! IT'S BEAUTIFUL!



JIM'S NEW PURCHASE... A 1941 CHEVRILLAC!

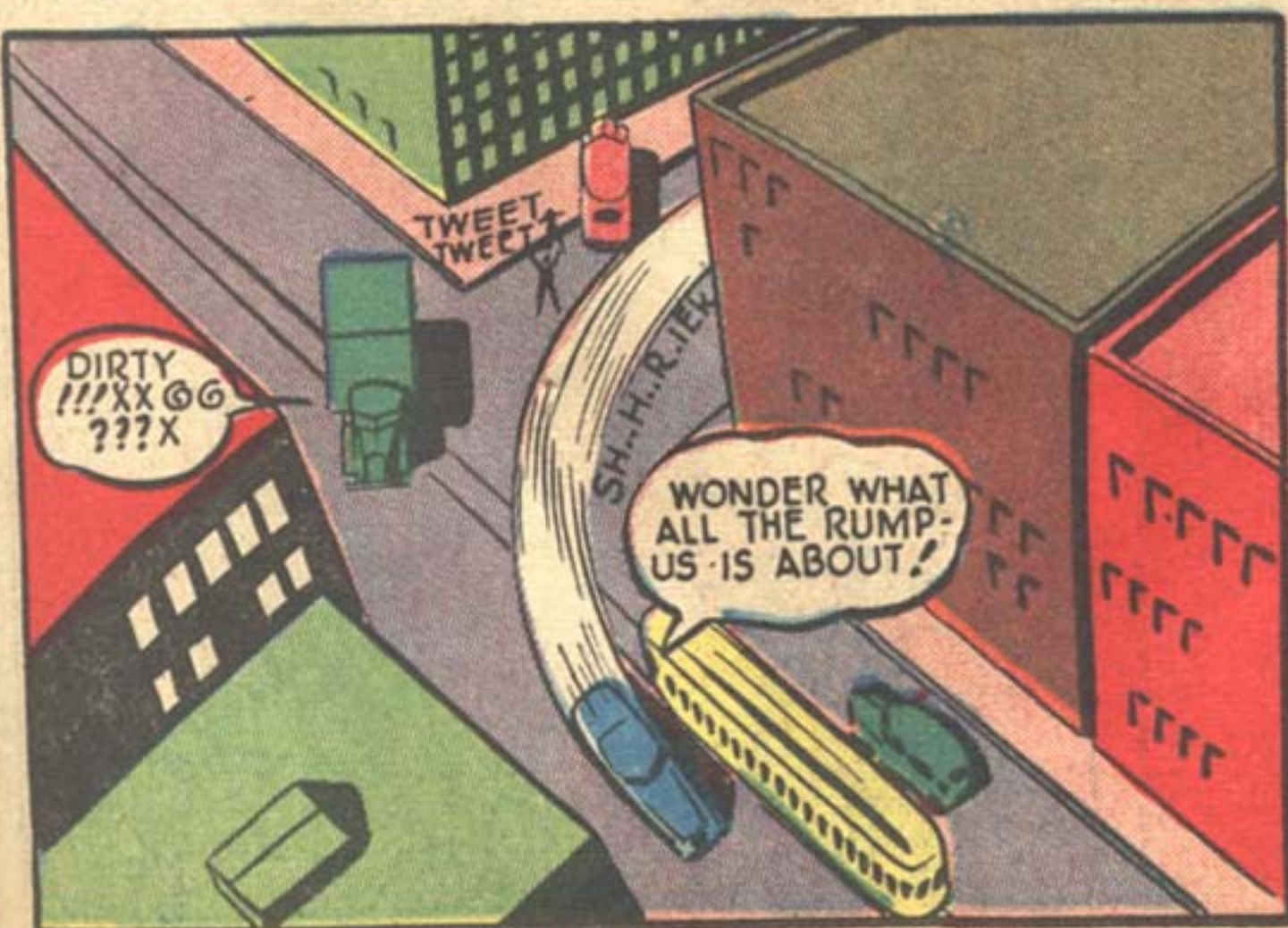


NEW CAR, EH?... I BETTER LOOK IT OVER! I KNOW ALL ABOUT CARS, KID!

DON'T BREAK ANYTHING, POP!



HMMPH!... NOT BAD!... MAYBE I OUGHTA TAKE HER FOR A LITTLE SPIN!



DIRTY !!! XX @ @ ??? X

WONDER WHAT ALL THE RUMP-US IS ABOUT!



BOY!.. WHEN I CATCH UP WITH THAT GUY, I'LL THROW THE WHOLE BOOK AT 'IM!'





AH! YOU'RE NUTS! I WUZN'T DOIN' OVER TWENTY!

C'MON WISE GUY!.. TELL IT TO THE JUDGE!



NOW LOOK JUDGE!.. KNOW WHO I AM! I'M PRACTICALLY THE FATHER-IN-LAW OF THE ST. LOUIS KID!.. BLA!.. BLA!.. BLA!..

IS THAT SO! \$100 FINE OR TEN DAYS IN JAIL!



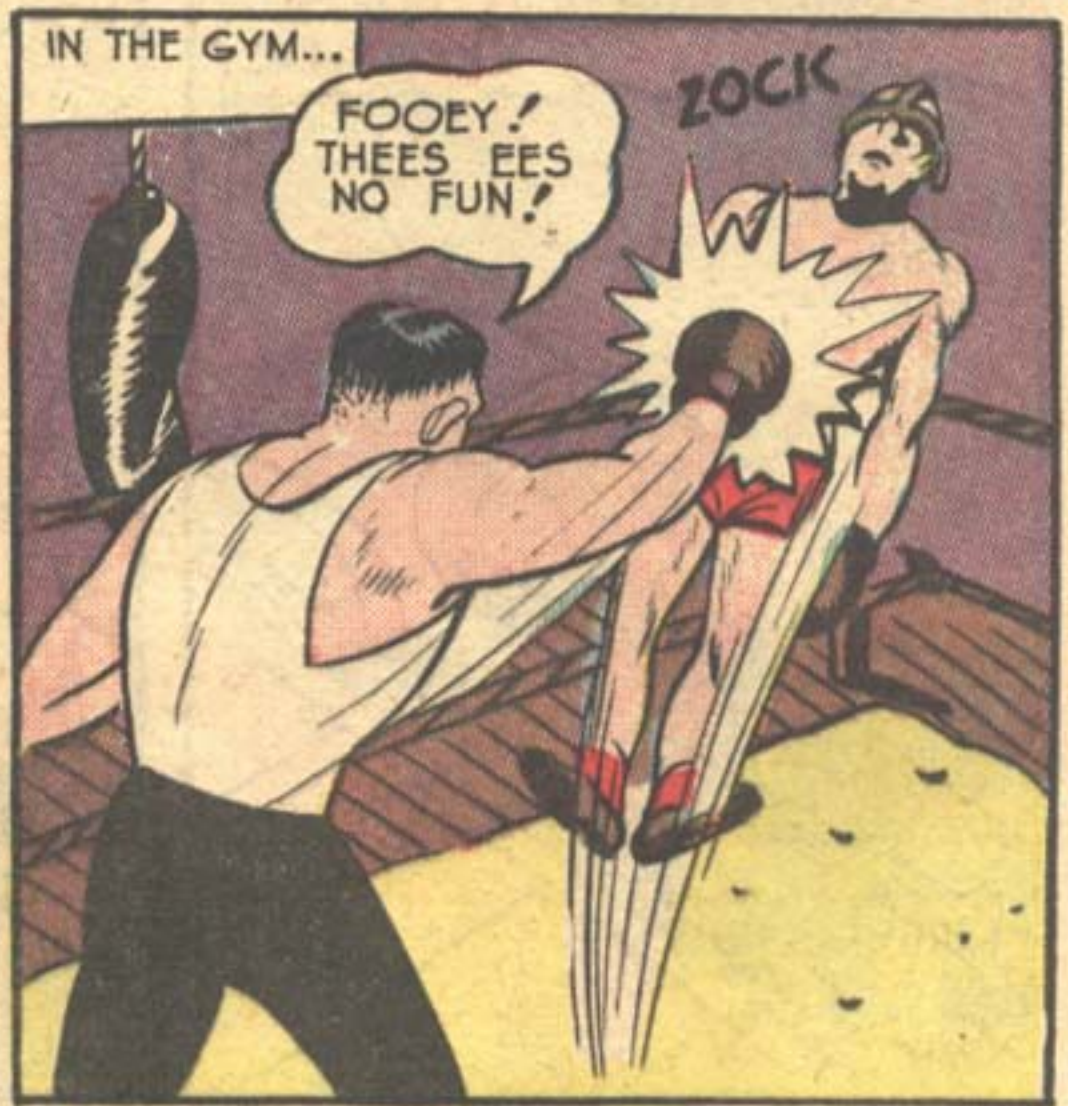
WHY TH' DUMB HICK!.. HE CAN'T DO THIS TO ME!



ST. LOUIS KID'S FATHER-IN-LAW... WHAT A BREAK! I'LL RUN RIGHT OVER TO THE GYM!



HA! HA!.. IF THAT BAG OF WIND KNEW I HAD A FIGHTER OF MY OWN, HE WOULDN'T HAVE SHOT OFF HIS MOUTH!



IN THE GYM...

FOOEY! THEES EES NO FUN!

ZOCK



THAT'S ENOUGH FOR ONE DAY, PAMPAS!.. NICE WORK!



NOW I'LL START GETTIN' YOU SOME REAL FIGHTS!.. WITH MY BRAINS AND THE JUDGE'S DOUGH, WE'LL GET SOMEWHERE!

BREENG 'EM ON!.. I TEAR 'EM APART IN LEEETLE PIECES!





EET'S TH' JUDGE!

PAMPAS! CHIZZLE! I'VE GOT GREAT NEWS!



I'M GETTING YOU A FIGHT! WITH THE ST. LOUIS KID!

ST. LOUIS KID! HO BOY! I KEEL HEEM!



YOU'LL WIN, ALL RIGHT! I'LL SEE TO THAT! NOW HERE'S MY PLAN!



MEANWHILE...

GEE! YOUR POP'S BEEN GONE OVER AN HOUR WITH THE CAR!

OH! I'M WORRIED JIM! HE'S ALWAYS GETTING INTO TROUBLE!



JUST THEN...

BZZZZ...



JUMPIN' JELLY BEANS! TROUBLE IS RIGHT! HE'S BEEN LOCKED UP! IN A TOWN CALLED HICKVILLE!

WILL YA GIMME YER AUTOGRAPH, KID?

OH JIM! PLEASE GET HIM OUT!



HARRUMPH! SO YOU'RE THE ST LOUIS KID! I'VE A PROPOSITION FOR YOU! I'ER AM INTERESTED IN FIGHTS MYSELF!

WHAT'S YOUR PROPOSITION, JUDGE?



IF YOU'LL...ER...PUT ON A LITTLE EXHIBITION FOR ME, I'LL...ER FREE YOUR FRIEND!

OKAY, JUDGE! IT'S A DEAL!

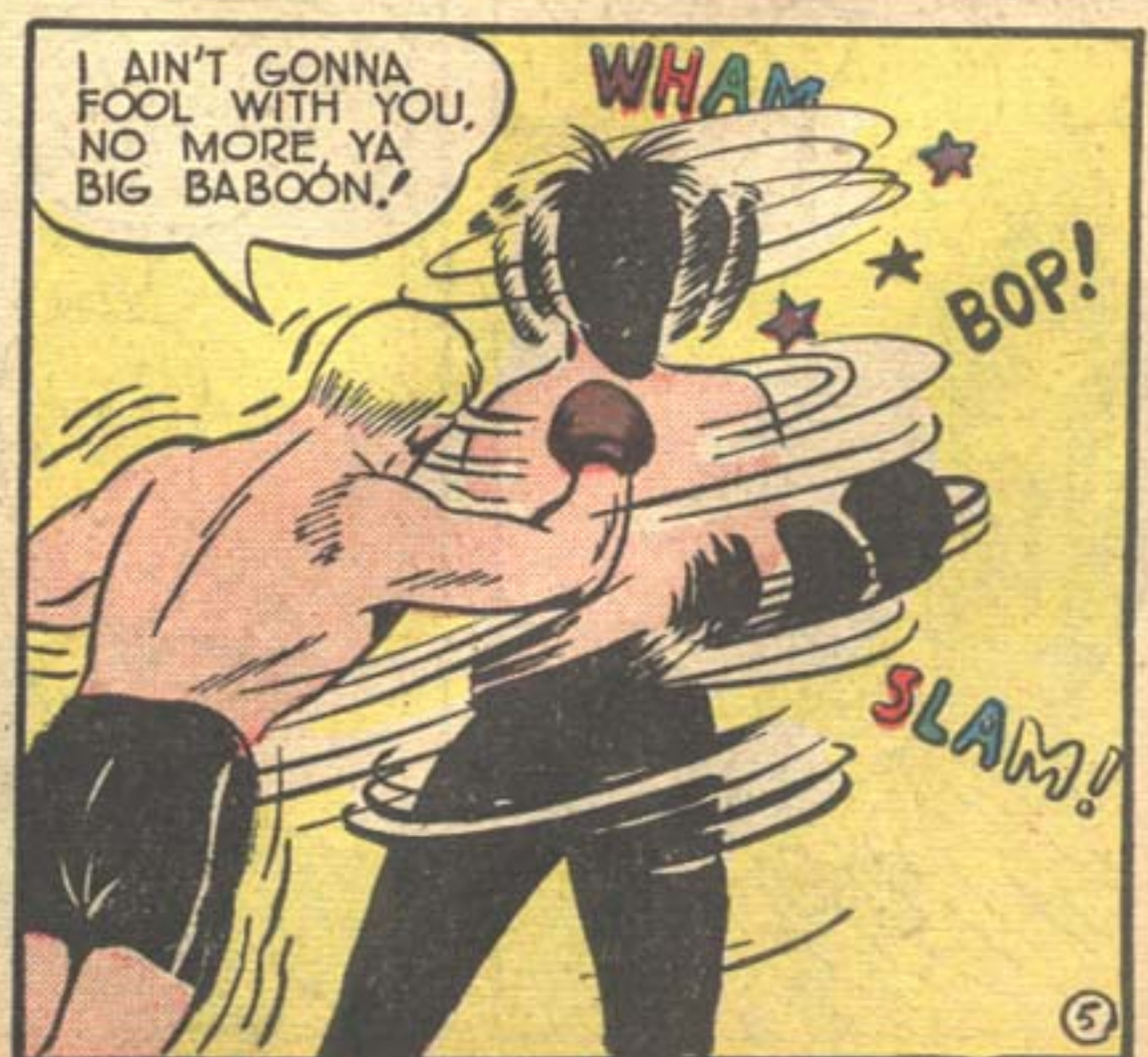


BOY! IS THIS YOUR "AMACHOOR" FIGHTER, JUDGE?

ER..YES! HE'S FROM ARGENTINA! THE PAMPAS KID!

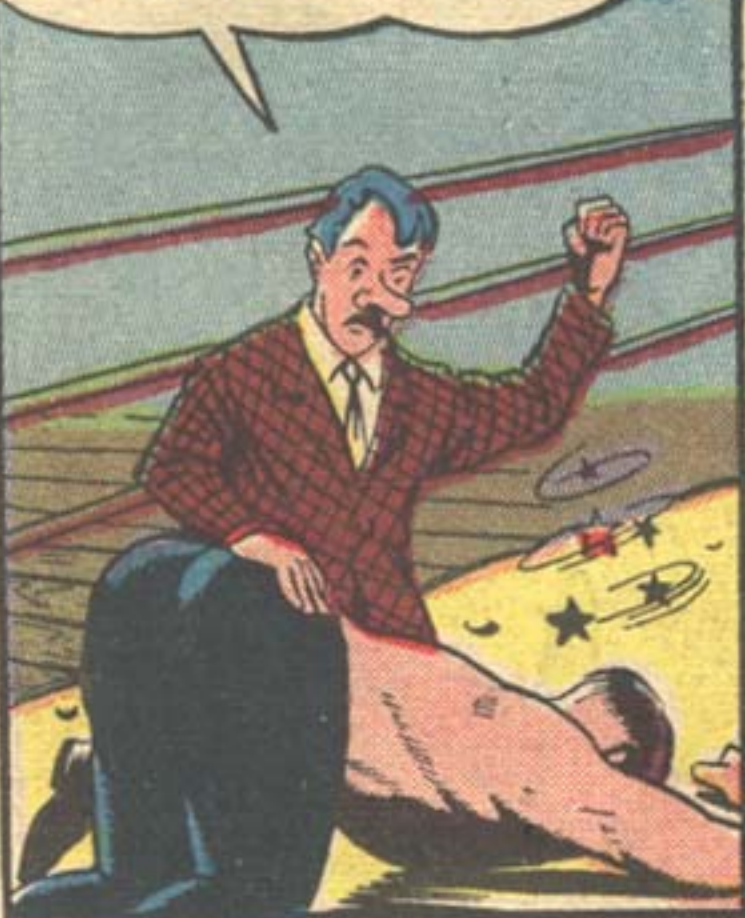
NEVER MIND TALK! ...ME FIGHT!







1... (GET UP YA BIG LUG)... 2... (ON YOUR FEET!)... 3... (I CAN'T KEEP THIS UP ALL DAY)... 4... (AH, NUTS! IT'S NO USE)



ONE HOUR LATER...

WHAT HEET PAMPAS? DID YOU GET NUMBA OF TRUCK?

IT WASN'T NO TRUCK, SAP!.. IT WUZ THE ST. LOUIS KID!



ANYONE WOT LEEK PAMPAS IS FRIEND!.. WHERE THEES ST. LOUIS KID! ME SHAKE HIS HAND!



THE JUDGE SLAPPED HIM IN THE CLINK!.. FER SUSPICION

NOW LOOK WHAT YOU DONE POP! THE JUDGE SAYS HE'S GONNA THROW THE KEY AWAY!

I'LL THINK O' SOMETHIN'!



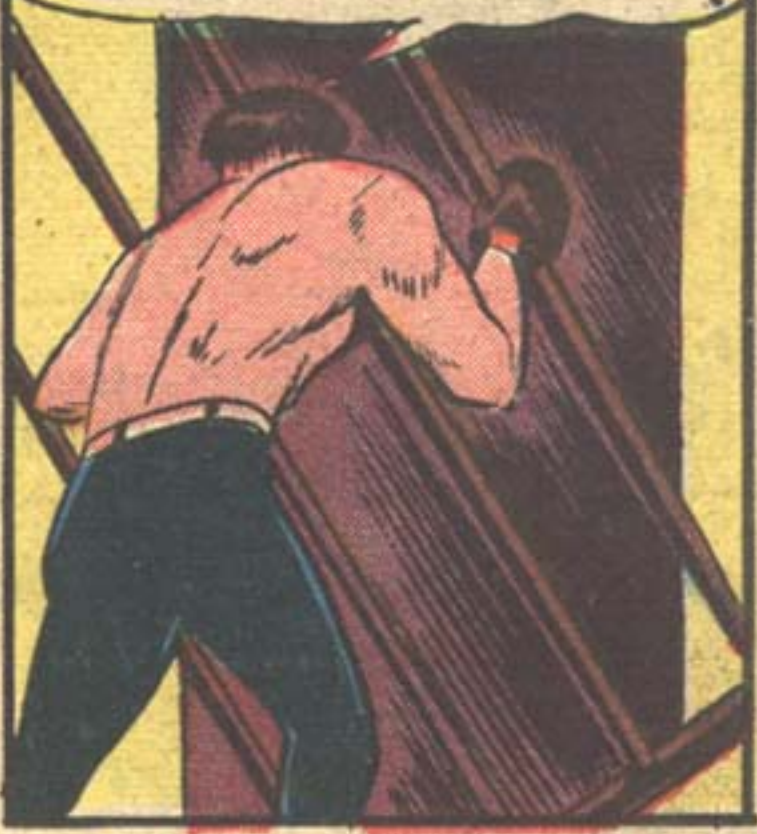
KEED!.. ST. LOUIS KEED!

IT'S THE BUM I KNOCKED COLD!



OH! SO IT'S MORE FIGHT HE WANTS, EH?

NO ONE KEEP MY FRIEN' EEN JAIL!.. URRFF! YOU FREE NOW!



THEES COPS!.. THEY TRY TO STOP ME!.. BUT I DON'T THEENK THEY TRY AGAIN!



WOW! THIS PLACE LOOKS LIKE A CYCLONE HIT IT!

IS.. IS.. THAT WILD BULL GONE, YET?



HO! YOU BOYS MY BODDIES FROM NOW ON, EH?

CHECK! YOU SURE DID ME A FAVOR!



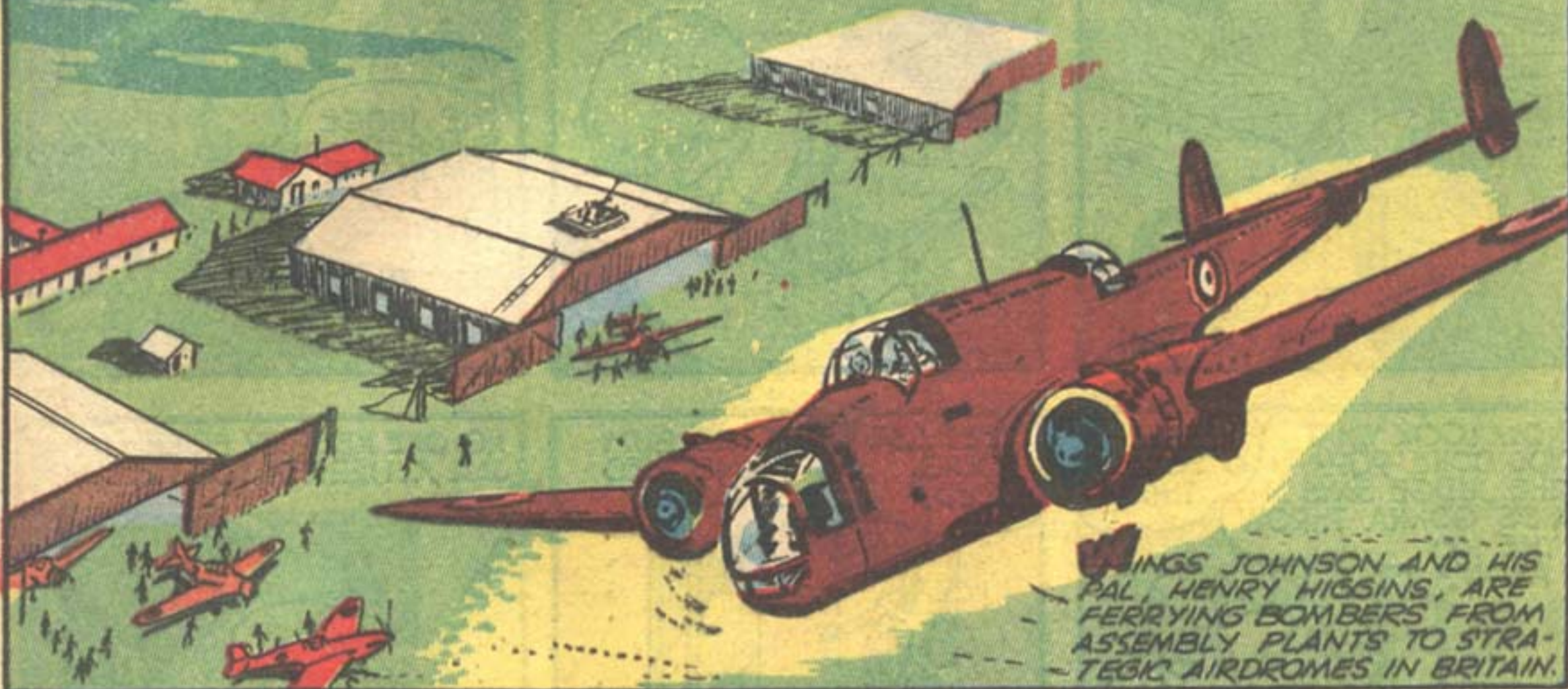
MORE OF THE ST. LOUIS KID IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP-NOTCH COMICS!



# WINGS JOHNSON

OF  
THE

# Air Patrol



WINGS JOHNSON AND HIS PAL, HENRY HIGGINS, ARE FERRYING BOMBERS FROM ASSEMBLY PLANTS TO STRATEGIC AIRDROMES IN BRITAIN.

WINGS SETS A NEW SHIP DOWN ON THE TARMAC AT A BASE SOMEWHERE ON THE EAST COAST...

HANDLEY PAGE HAMPDEN



WELL, HENRY! THIS IS THE FIFTH SHIP TODAY! I GUESS WE'RE THROUGH UNTIL MORN- HEY! LOOK OUT!

OOPS!



LORD-LOVE-A-DUCK! ME BLINKIN' H'ANKLE FEELS LIKE HIT'S BLOODY - WELL BUSTED IN 'ARF!

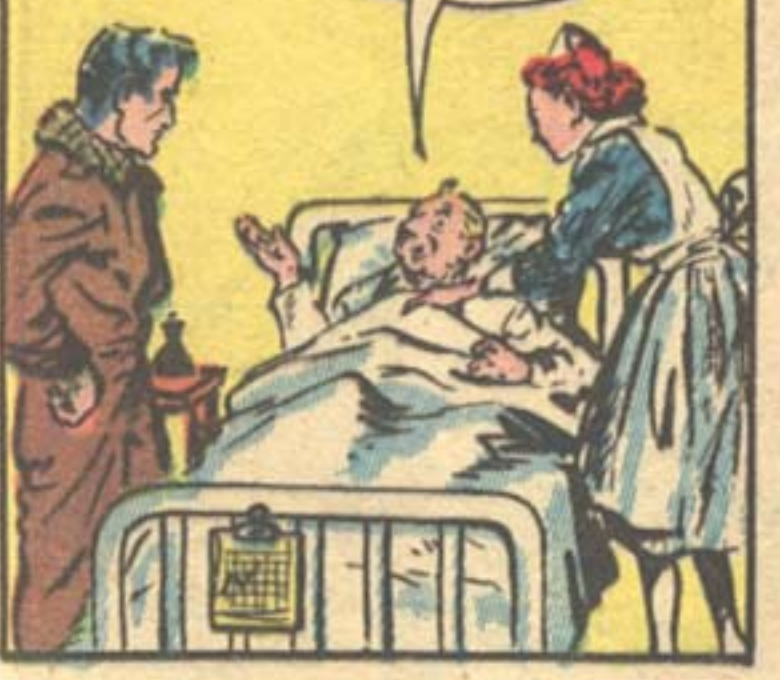


DON'T TRY TO STAND, HENRY! WE'LL CARRY YOU TO THE INFIRMARY!



HENRY IS PUT TO BED IN THE HOSPITAL...

DON'T WORRY, HENRY! YOU'LL SOON BE UP AGAIN!  
H'I AIN'T SO POSITIVE H'I WANT TO GET H'UP YET, WING-SIE! H'ALL THIS 'ERE ATTENTION IS JOLLY NICE!



WINGS LEAVES HENRY'S ROOM!



I SAY, THERE! YOU'RE WINGS JOHNSON, ARE YOU NOT? MAY I HAVE A WORD WITH YOU, SIR?  
I BEG YOUR PARDON? OH! CERTAINLY!



THIS IS CONFIDENTIAL JOHNSON! TREAT IT AS SUCH! I'M CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS, OF MILITARY INTELLIGENCE! I WAS ABOUT TO SPEAK TO YOU AND YOUR OBSERVER WHEN HE - AH - FELL. HOWEVER, I THINK YOU AND I CAN DO THE JOB WITHOUT HIGGINS' HELP!



FOR SOME TIME G H Q HAS BEEN UNEASY ABOUT OUR LONDON DEFENSES! WE WONDER IF GERMAN BOMBERS, GLIDING IN WITH THEIR MOTORS AND LIGHTS OFF, COULD APPROACH OVER LONDON WITHOUT BEING SEEN OR HEARD! I AM DETAILED TO SEE IF THAT CAN BE DONE - WITH YOUR HELP, OF COURSE!



I'LL BE ON CALL TONIGHT AT ANY TIME YOU'RE READY, CAPTAIN!

GOOD, JOHNSON! I'LL CONTACT YOU LATER TONIGHT! WE WILL USE ONE OF THE BOMBERS YOU FERRIED IN TODAY. BUT REMEMBER - KEEP THIS STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL!



WINGS GOES BACK TO SEE HENRY!

WELL, PAL, YOU MISSED OUT ON SOMETHING EXCITING! I'M OFF ON A SECRET MISSION FOR G H Q TONIGHT!



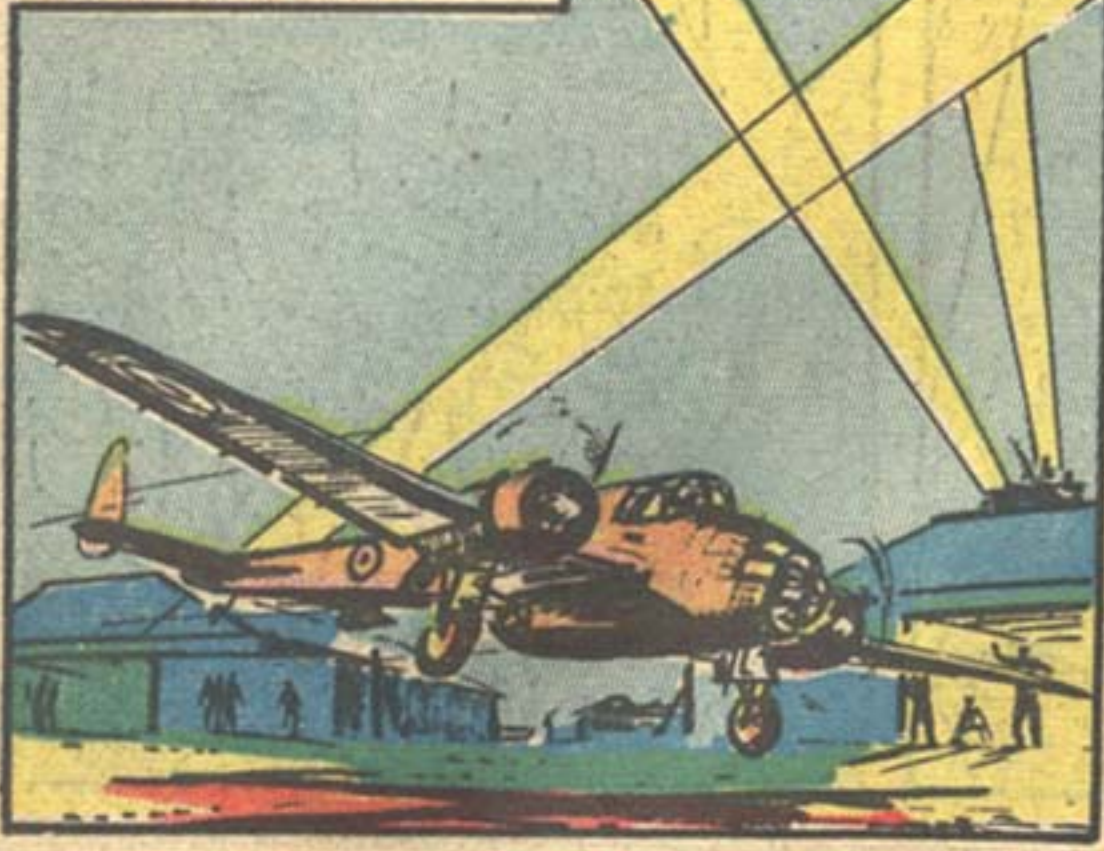
YOU CAN'T DO THIS TO ME, WINGSIE! SUPPOSE YOU - SUPPOSE - BLAST YOU!

NOW, NOW, HENRY! TAKE IT EASY! REMEMBER, YOU'RE IN THE HOSPITAL AND YOU HAVE TO BE CALM! I'LL SEE YOU WHEN I GET BACK!





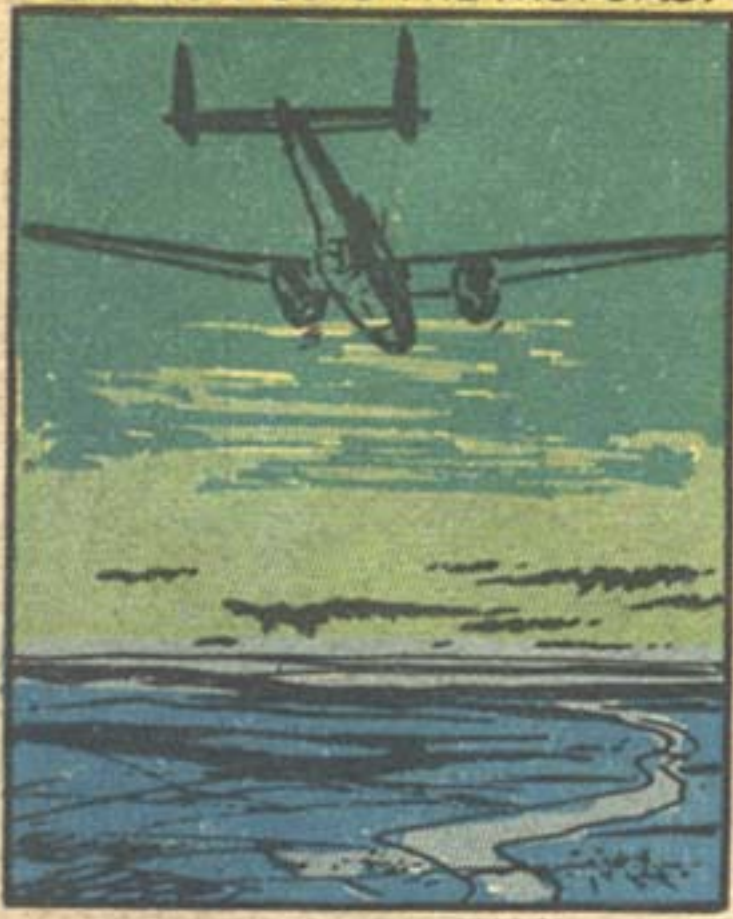
**T**OWARDS MIDNIGHT, WINGS AND CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS TAKE OFF FROM THE AIR-DROME!!!!!!



WE'RE OFF, JOHNSON! NOW, REMEMBER, GAIN ALL THE ALTITUDE YOU CAN! THEN, WHEN WE APPROACH LONDON, CUT YOUR MOTORS AND SIGNAL LIGHTS AND GLIDE TOWARDS THE HEART OF THE CITY!



**S**EVERAL HOURS LATER, THE BOMBER ARRIVES OVER THE OUTSKIRTS OF LONDON AND JOHNSON CUTS THE MOTORS.



KEEP 'ER IN THE SAME ANGLE OF GLIDE, JOHNSON! I'M GOING AFT AND CHECK OUR COURSE ON THE MAP!

RIGHT, CAPTAIN!



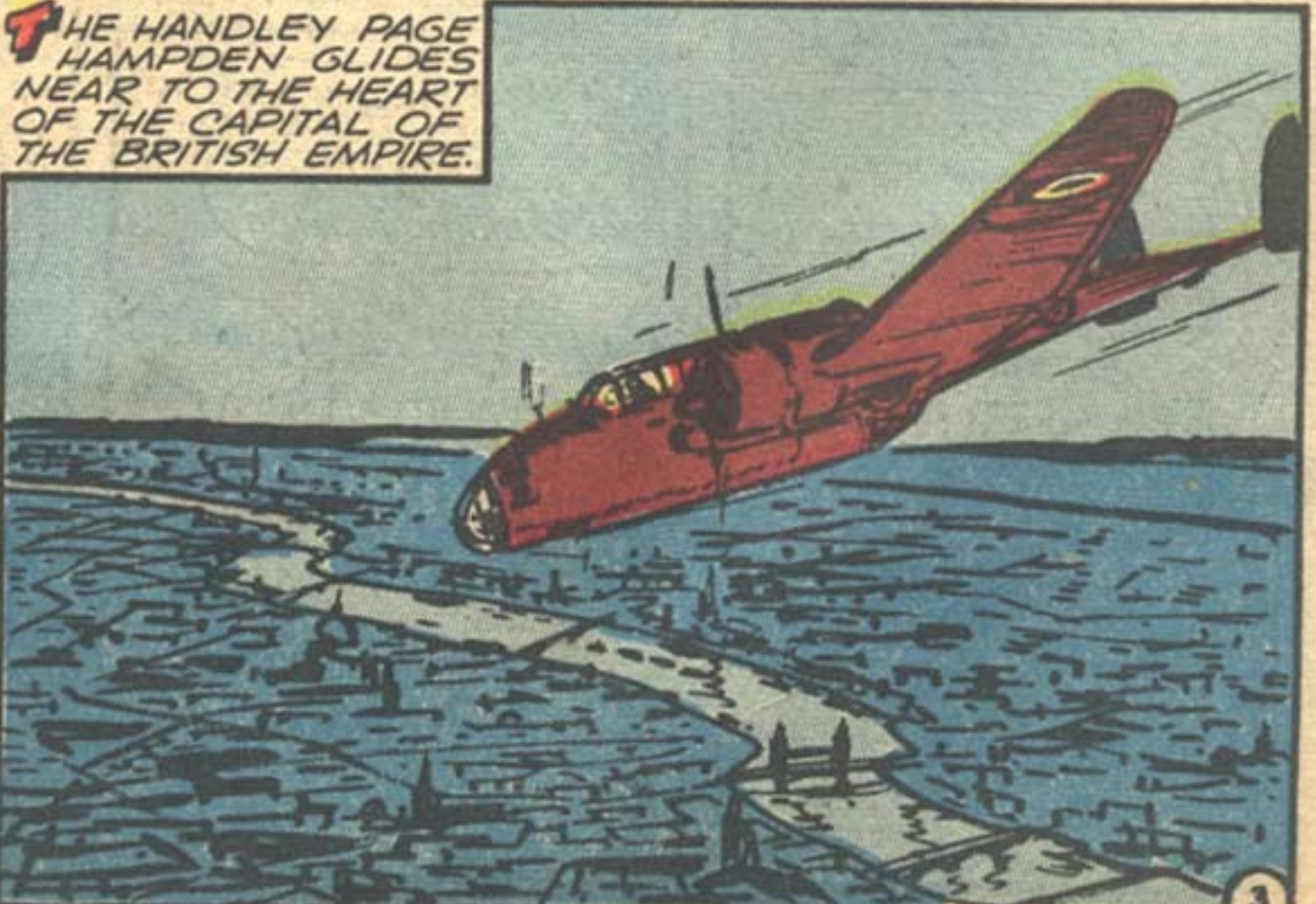
**I**N THE REAR OF THE BOMBER, HENRY-A STOWAWAY-PEERS' OVER CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS' SHOULDER!



WE'VE ALMOST MADE IT! KEEP UP THE GOOD WORK! THIS IS ASTOUNDING! WE HAVEN'T BEEN SIGHTED BY THE ANTI-AIRCRAFT YET!



**T**HE HANDLEY PAGE HAMPDEN GLIDES NEAR TO THE HEART OF THE CAPITAL OF THE BRITISH EMPIRE.







ER-SAY-CAPTAIN! WOULD YOU MIND TAKING THE CONTROLS FOR A MOMENT?

I'M NOT A PILOT, JOHNSON! BUT I CAN HOLD THEM LIKE YOU TELL ME IF YOU WANT ME TO!



OH, OH HERE'S WINGSIE! I BETTER DUCK!

THAT'S RIGHT. JUST HOLD THE WHEEL LIKE THAT - I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!



HIM?... HOW DO I KNOW THIS GUY IS FROM BRITISH INTELLIGENCE? IF THE GERMANS EVER FOUND OUT THEY COULD FLY OVER LONDON BY CUTTING THEIR MOTORS...!



A SUDDEN LURCH OF THE SHIP THROWS HENRY OFF BALANCE!

WH-WH-WHAT'S TH' BLOOMIN' H' IDEA?



HIGGINS' HEAD STRIKES THE SWITCH BOX, TURNING ON THE PLANE'S LANDING LIGHTS!



HEY! SEE THOSE LIGHTS? WHERE ARE THEY COMING FROM?



BOMBER ALOFT! OPEN FIRE!!!



IN A FEW SECONDS, THE PLANE IS SURROUNDED IN AN INFERNO OF BURSTING SHELLS!





ZUM DONNER-VETTER!

WHAT WAS THAT, CAPTAIN?



SO YOU HAVE TRICKED ME, JOHNSON? YOU SWITCHED ON THE LANDING LIGHTS TO SIGNAL THE GROUND BATTERIES!



NO YOU DON'T!

**T**HE BOMBER ZOOMS TOWARD THE GROUND!



**H**ENRY IS HURLED FORWARD!



BLINKIN' BEAKERS! H'IF I DIDN'T KNOW BETTER, H'ID SWEAR WINGSIE WAS A STINKY GOL-BLAMED PILOT!



NOW, JOHNSON! HERE'S WHERE I GET EVEN WITH YOU! I'LL - OOOOF!

H'YA WINGSIE!

HENRY!



GRAB THEM CONTROLS!

WE'RE ALMOST READY TO CRASH! BRACE YOURSELF!





**W**INGS JERKS THE NOSE OF THE SHIP UP JUST IN THE NICK OF TIME!



THAT'S ONE OF OUR SHIPS! LAY OFF THE GUNS! CEASE FIRING!

HEY!  
HELP!  
LOOK OUT!



WHEW! THAT WAS AS CLOSE AS I WANT TO COME! HENRY! HOW'RE YOU DOIN'?



NOT BAD FOR H'AN OLD COOT WITH H'A BUSTED PEDAL H'EXTREMITY! BUT H'IT'S A LUCKY THING FOR YOU H'I STOWED AWAY H'ON THIS BLOODY FLIGHT!



H'I 'AD ME H'EYE H'ON THIS BLARSTED CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS RIGHT FROM THE BEGINNING! "HENRY," I SAYS TO MYSELF, "THAT H'OFFICER H'AIN'T UP TO NO GOOD," H'I SAYS! YES, SIR!



**W**INGS AND HENRY RETURN TO THEIR AIRDROME WITH THE NAZI SPY!

CLEAR THE WAYS! BOMBER COMING IN!

MUST BE JOHNSON! WHERE'S HE BEEN?



WELL! "CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS," IS IT? LOOKS MORE LIKE KARL VON KARSTARES, OF THE GERMAN SECRET SERVICE!

CAPTAIN CARSTAIRS, ME FOOT! H'AND SPEAKIN' OF ME FOOT - WHO'LL GIVE ME A HAND WITH IT?

**W**INGS JOHNSON AND HENRY HIGGINS JOIN THE AIR PATROL FOR MORE THRILLING ADVENTURES IN NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE OF TOP-NOTCH COMICS!



# BOB PHANTOM

THE WEALTHY TIMMINS FAMILY IS AWAY FOR TWO WEEKS VACATION AND THEIR MANSION IS CLOSED.... BUT ONE NIGHT, A FLASHLIGHT PLAYS AROUND A ROOM UNTIL IT LOCATES A HIDDEN SAFE IN THE WALL! THEN....

WALT WHITNEY, FAMOUS BROADWAY COLUMNIST, IS 'TAKING A STROLL....

A FLASHLIGHT IN THE TIMMINS' HOME! I'D BETTER HAVE A LOOK INTO THIS!

I GOT ALL TH' DIAMONDS, SNOOZER! LET'S GO!

HEY SNOOZER! I HEAR SOMEONE COMIN'!

THE PROFESSIONAL CRACKSMEN LEAP INTO THE LAUNDRY CHUTE!

THE NEXT MOMENT, A SWIRL OF WIND AND A PUFF OF EERIE WHITE SMOKE.... BOB PHANTOM!

THEY'RE GONE!

MESKIN-



LATER, THE TWO MEN ENTER THEIR APARTMENT BUILDING.

GOOD EVENING

GOOD EVENIN'

BRICK, YOU GO DOWN THE HALL AND TELL THAT GAL I'LL BE THERE IN A FEW MINUTES TO TAKE HER OUT!... I GOTTA GET DRESSED!

OKAY, SNOOZER!

HELLO MR. MASON! WON'T YOU COME IN?

I UNDERSTAND YOU AN' SNOOZER... I MEAN MR. SMITH ARE GOIN' TO THE OPENING OF THE NEW PLAY, TONIGHT!

YES! I'M SO THRILLED I DON'T KNOW WHY YOU MEN ARE SO NICE TO ME!

HELLO MISS JINX! I THOUGHT WE'D ALL HAVE A COCKTAIL BEFORE WE GO TO THE THEATRE!

OH!... THAT'S DELIGHTFUL!

I'LL MAKE USE OF YOUR KITCHEN, JINX!... IF IT'S ALL RIGHT WITH YOU!

OF COURSE! IF YOU DON'T FIND EVERYTHING YOU WANT, JUST CALL ME!

LISTEN, SNOOZER, WHERE'D YOU PUT THOSE SPARKLERS?

SHH! I'LL TELL YOU AFTER WE GET BACK FROM THE PLAY!

NOW SHUT UP ABOUT IT AND LEAVE EVERYTHING TO ME!

OKAY SNOOZER! BUT IF YOU TRY TO DOUBLE-CROSS ME, I'LL SINK A HALF FOOT OF STEEL KNIFE IN YOU!... AN' DON'T FORGET IT!



WALT WHITNEY IN HIS OFFICE AT THE NEWSPAPER PLANT, WINDS UP HIS DAY..

WELL THERE'S ANOTHER COLUMN DONE! WHY DON'T I GET SMART AND HIRE SOMEONE TO HELP ME WITH THE THING?

GUESS I'LL DROP IN AND SEE THAT NEW PLAY THAT'S OPENING TONIGHT... ALTHO' I GUESS I'VE MISSED HALF OF IT ALREADY!

YEP! I'VE MISSED THE FIRST ACT! EVERYONE'S OUTSIDE GETTING SOME FOUL AIR WHEN THEY COULD BE INSIDE GETTING FRESH, AIR-CONDITIONED OZONE! HO, HUM!... THERE'S NOBODY DUMBER THAN PEOPLE!

PRETTY BIG CROWD HERE TONIGHT! BUT I DON'T SEE ANYONE VERY INTERESTING!..MIGHT AS WELL GO INSIDE!

LOOK, MR. SMITH!..ISN'T THAT MR. WHITNEY, THE COLUMNIST?

INSIDE, WHITNEY TAKES HIS SEAT..

THE NEXT INSTANT, IN THE LOBBY...

HELP! MURDER! A MAN'S BEEN KILLED!

I..I..THINK I'M GOING TO FAINT!

WALT WHITNEY PUSHES THROUGH THE CROWD....

HM!.. THIS BEGINS TO LOOK LIKE A GOOD OLD MYSTERY FOR BOB PHANTOM TO WORK ON!

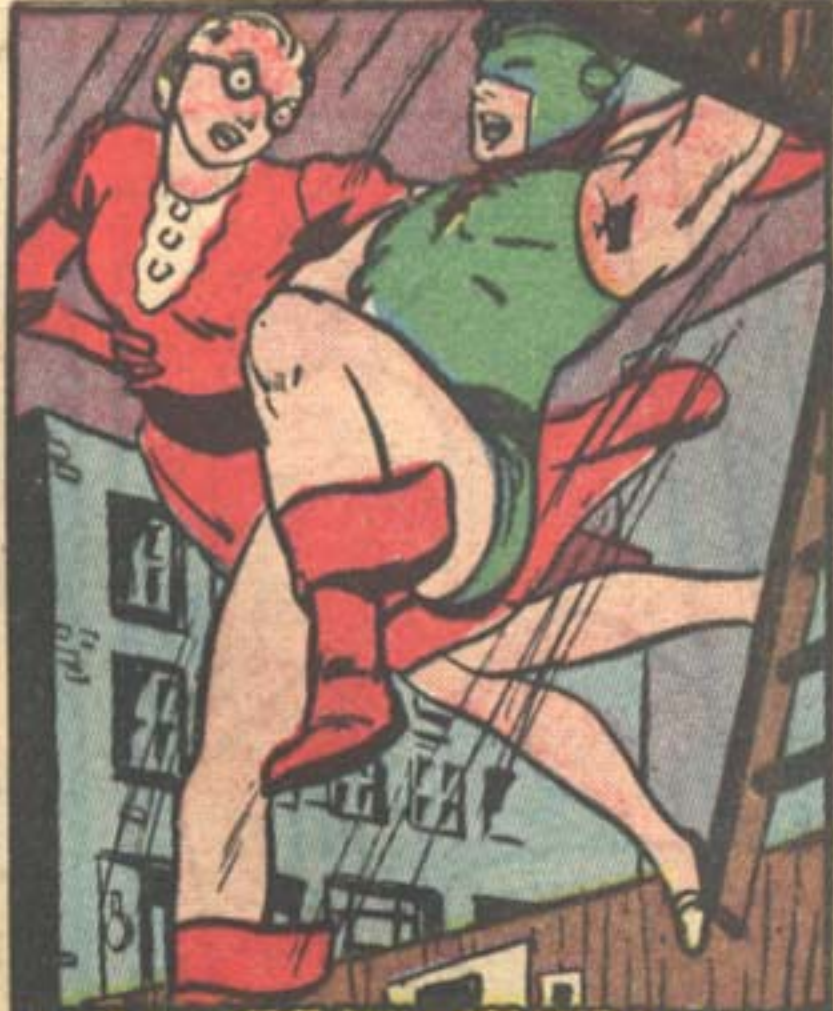


BOB PHANTOM APPEARS BESIDE THE GIRL!

COME WITH ME!  
THE COPS WILL  
BE HERE ANY  
SECOND!



I KNOW YOU HAD NOTHING  
TO DO WITH THAT  
MURDER, BUT THE COPS  
MIGHT NOT BELIEVE  
YOU!



BOB PHANTOM GETS THE GIRL  
SAFELY OUT OF THE THEATRE!

QUICK! WHAT'S YOUR  
NAME AND ADDRESS?

JINX FRIDAY...  
THE BELMONT  
APARTMENTS...  
SUITE 13!



THE HOMICIDE SQUAD HAS ALREADY  
TAKEN OVER THE CASE.

SO IT'S SNOOZER  
SMITH, EH? WE'VE  
BEEN LOOKIN'  
FOR THIS  
JEWEL THIEF  
FOR A LONG  
TIME!

RIGHT! BUT  
IT'S TOO  
BAD WE  
DIDN'T FIND  
HIS PAL,  
BRICK MASON  
RIGHT WITH  
HIM!

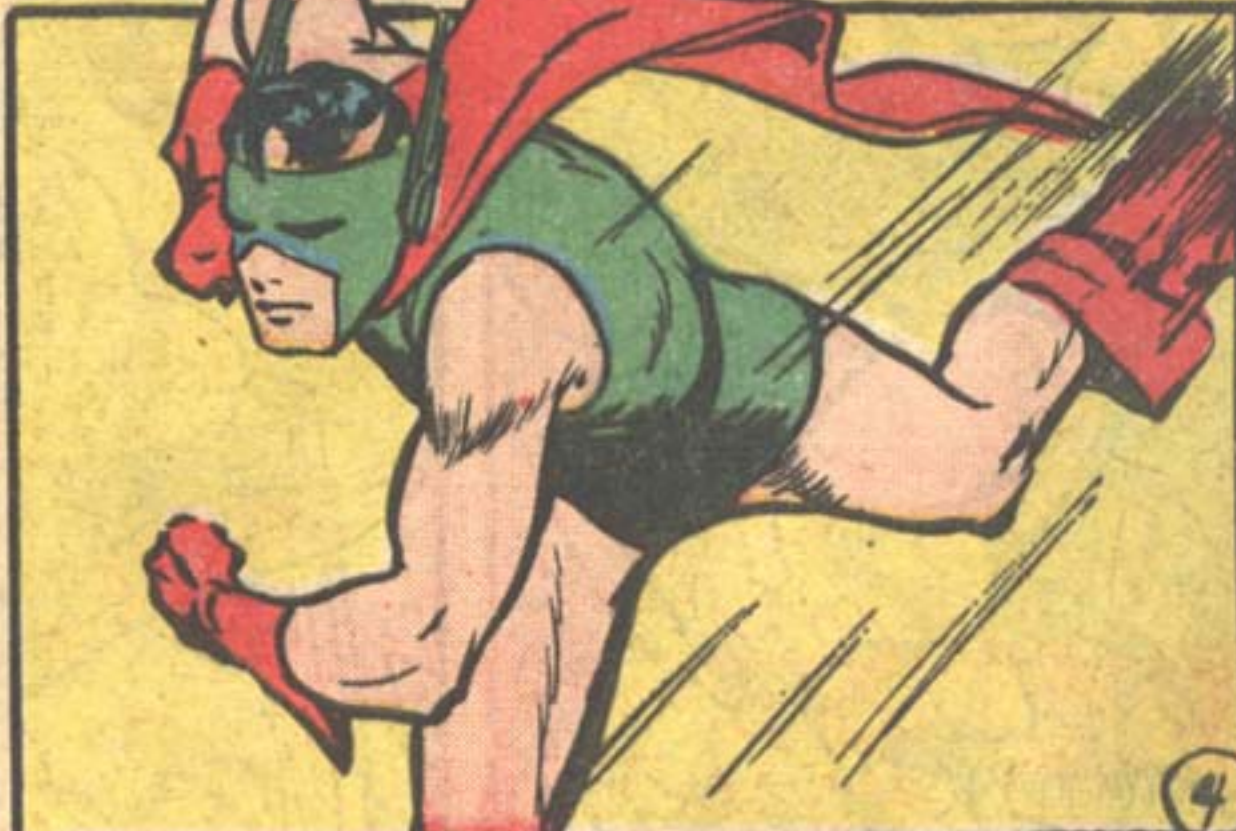


WELL, WELL!  
LIEUTENANT  
HOGAN!  
WHO'S THE  
DEAD PUNK?

AS USUAL  
WHITNEY YOU  
DON'T KNOW  
A PUNK FROM  
A BIG SHOT!...  
GO AWAY!



OKAY, PAL!  
TOO BAD  
THAT MURDER  
DIDN'T HAPPEN  
ON THE  
STAGE...  
YOU COULD  
HAVE TURNED  
THE SPOT-  
LIGHT ON  
YOURSELF!...  
SO LONG!



ONCE AGAIN.. THE STREAKING FIGURE OF BOB PHANTOM!



IN THE MEANTIME, JINX FRIDAY HAS RETURNED TO HER APARTMENT.



WOW!.. SOMEONE WENT THROUGH SNOOZER'S APARTMENT LIKE A HURRICANE! WONDER WHAT HE WAS LOOKING FOR?



YOU HAVE A GUEST, MISS JINX!  
OH! BRICK MASON!... WHAT!..



WHERE ARE THOSE DIAMONDS? SNOOZER SLIPPED 'EM TO YOU DIDN'T HE? COME ON!



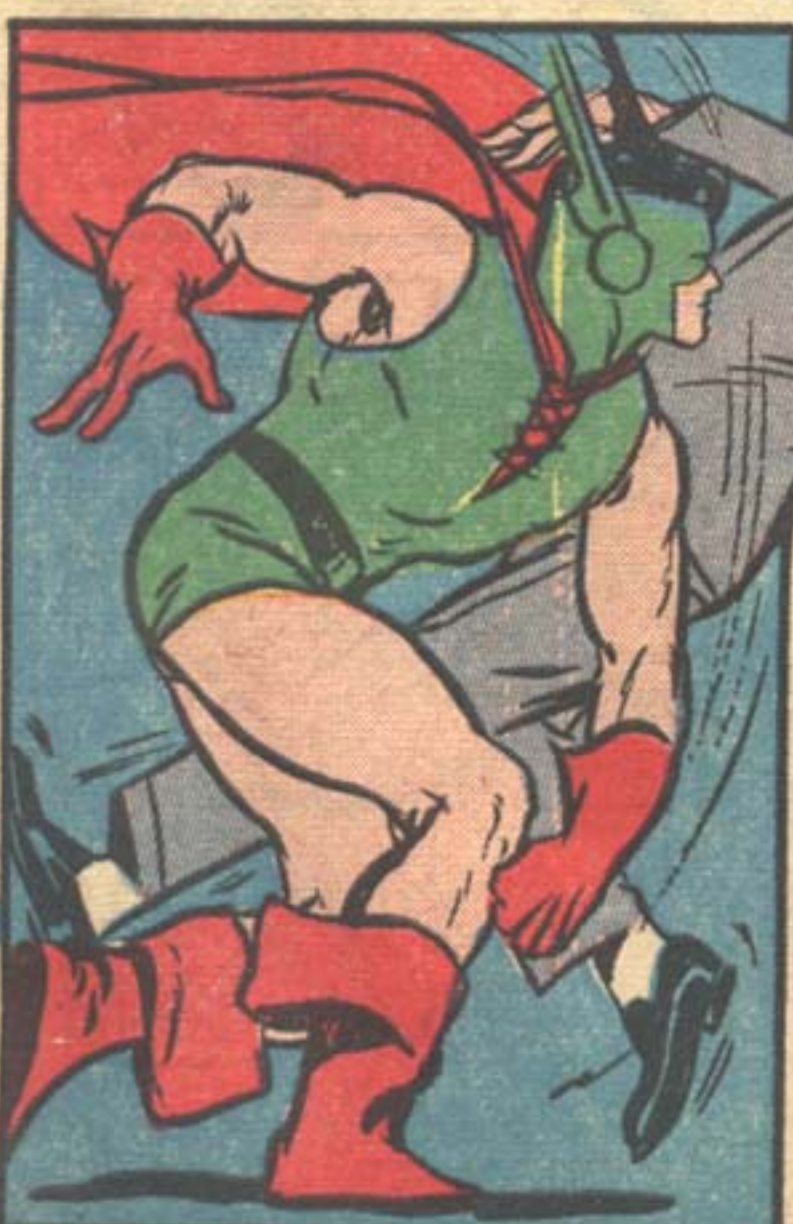
BOB PHANTOM ARRIVES AT SNOOZER'S APARTMENT UP THE HALL



WHEN YOU FEEL THIS FLAME BURNING YOUR FOOT YOU'LL CHANGE YOUR MIND AND TALK!



BOB PHANTOM!



NOW, MISS FRIDAY... LET'S GET YOU OUT OF THIS FIX! A MURDER AND A TRYST WITH A TORTURER IS A LITTLE TOO MUCH FOR ONE EVENING, ISN'T IT?



YOU JUST SIT TIGHT... I'LL DELIVER THIS UNCONSCIOUS THUG TO THE POLICE AND SEND MY FRIEND WALT WHITNEY AROUND TO HELP YOU FIT UP A STORY IN CASE THE POLICE GET INQUISITIVE!



BOB PHANTOM APPEARS AT THE POLICE STATION.



YOU LUGS! IF YOU CAN SKIP THE CHECKERS... I HAVE A PRESENT FOR YOU!

MOTHER MACHREE! IT'S BRICK MASON, SNOOZER, SMITH'S PAL!



LATER...



HELLO!..YOU'RE JINX FRIDAY AREN'T YOU?..I'M WALT WHITNEY! MAY I COME IN?



HERE'S A DRINK FOR YOU! I THINK YOU'LL FIND THE ICE CUBES IN IT ARE THE HOTTEST ICE YOU'VE EVER SEEN!

THANKS!..ER..WHAT? HOT ICE? LET'S SEE!



DIAMONDS FROZEN IN THE CUBES!

YES! I FIGURED OUT THAT..IF SNOOZER HAD THE GEMS, THE ONLY PLACE HE COULD HAVE PUT THEM WAS IN THE ICE TRAY... WHEN, HE FIXED A DRINK BEFORE WE WHEN TO THE THEATRE!

SMART GAL!..HMM..YOU KNOW, I COULD USE YOU TO HELP ME WITH MY COLUMN! HOW ABOUT IT?

6



OH, MR. WHITNEY! YOU WOULDN'T WANT A PLAIN LITTLE OLD GIRL LIKE ME!

I'M NOT SO SURE! LET'S HAVE THOSE GLASSES!



JINX FRIDAY UNDERGOES A CHANGE.



NOW WE'LL DROP THE DIAMONDS OFF AT THE POLICE STATION AND I'LL INTRODUCE THEM TO MY NEW GAL FRIDAY!

BOB PHANTOM (AND WALT WHITNEY) APPEAR IN EVERY ISSUE OF TOP NOTCH COMICS..



HEY, FELLAS! LOOKA THIS! DID I HIT THE JACKPOT! STEEL STERLING, THE BLACK HOOD, MR. JUSTICE, AND THAT LAUGH-PROVOKING DEVIL-MAY-CARE, ACE OF THE BRITISH ARMY, SERGEANT BOYLE, WITH HIS PAL (?) CORPORAL COLLINS, ALL IN ONE MAGAZINE! IT SURE IS A JACKPOT!

10¢  
copy



NO. 1  
**JACKPOT** 10¢

WITH

*comics*  
ALL BRAND NEW STORIES



STEEL STERLING



BLACK HOOD



MR. JUSTICE



SERGEANT BOYLE



*Look*  
FOR THIS  
**NEW**  
**MAGAZINE**  
ON YOUR  
**NEWSSTANDS!**

64 Pages of  
4 Color Action



Here's what you get in NO. 3

# SHIELD - WIZARD

comics



WHY DID JU JU WATSON FACE THE ELECTRIC CHAIR... AND HOW COULD THE SHIELD SAVE HIM WITHOUT FIRST BREAKING THE LAW HE HAD SWORN TO UPHOLD?....

THE MAHARAJAH MURDERS



WAS THIS A PRE-HISTORIC BEAST THAT STRUCK TERROR INTO THE HEARTS OF ALL HOLLYWOOD OR WAS IT MURDER, HUMANLY AND FIENDISHLY DESIGNED; THAT ONLY THE WIZARD COULD FRUSTRATE!

MYSTERY OF THE FLYING DUTCHMAN



WAS THIS A GHOST SHIP THAT CAME OUT OF THE MIST TO PLUNGE JOE DUSTY JUJU AND BETTY WARREN INTO THE WEIRDEST ADVENTURE OF THEIR CAREERS!..



THE MONSTER OF MADNESS

DEATH BELOW



WEIRD HORROR STRUCK AT ALL VISITORS TO THE CITY UNTIL THE WIZARD AND ROY THE SUPERBOY DECIDED TO INVESTIGATE!..

TERROR STRUCK AT ALL THOSE WHO TRIED TO WORK IN THE VITAL MANGANESE MINES, BUT THE SHIELD AND DUSTY WERE STILL TO BE RECKONED WITH!....



THE CORPSES THAT WOULDN'T STAY HOME

ALL THESE STORIES, AND MORE, APPEAR IN THE SPRING ISSUE, NO. 3, OF SHIELD-WIZARD COMICS, ON SALE AT ALL NEWSSTANDS ON MARCH 1st. ORDER YOUR COPY TODAY!



# KARDAK

## THE MYSTIC MAGICIAN



HURBELL

COMIN' RIGHT UP WITH YER WATER, MR. VAN SLICK!



IT'S HIGH TIME! YOU KEPT ME WAITING THREE FULL MINUTES!



LOOK OUT!

OOPS!



YOU CLUMSY LITTLE FOOL! THIS IS THE LAST STRAW...! I QUIT!

WHOA, BALTHAR! TAKE IT EASY!

HE HIT LITTLE BOY, KARDAK! ME... SMACK HIM EARS OFF!



I'LL SHOW THEM...THE FOOLS!

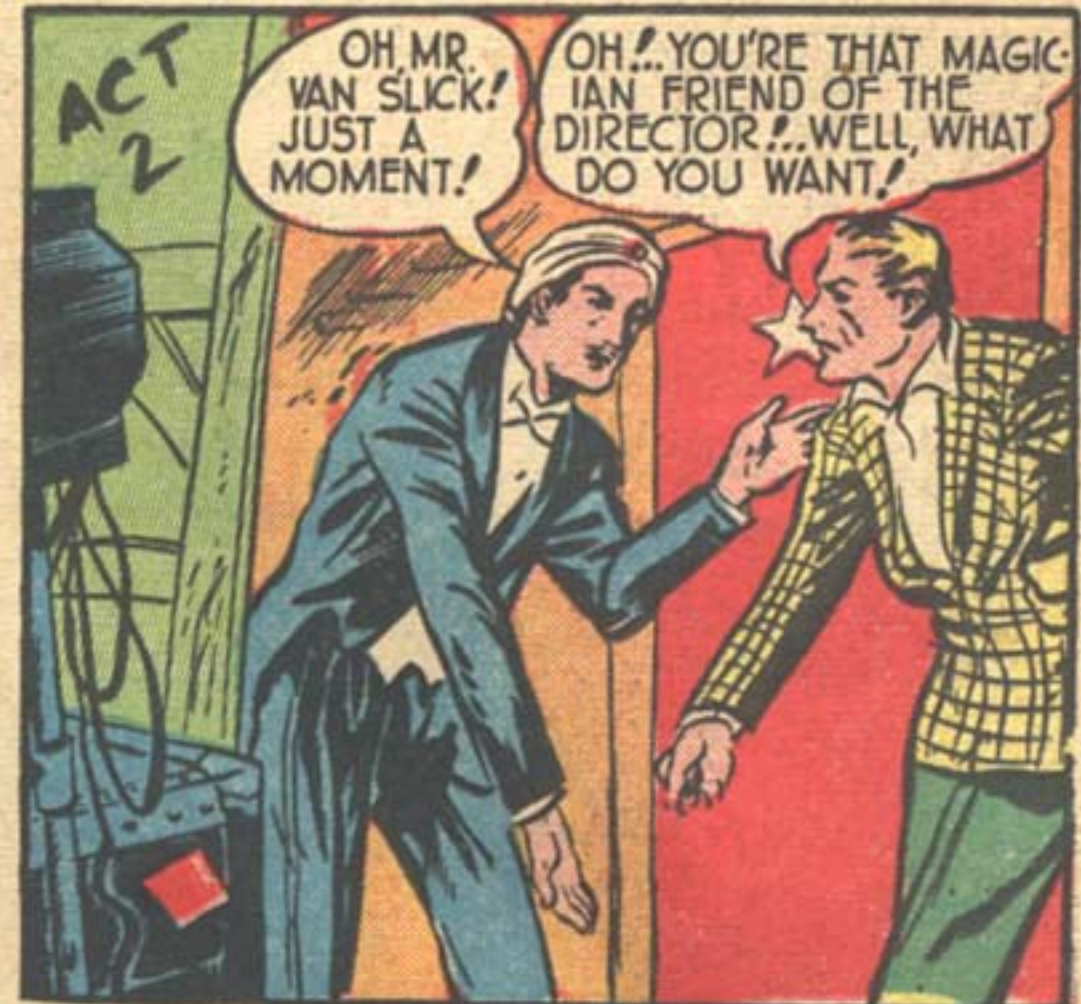
REHEARSAL CALLED OFF, EVERYBODY!





THERE!.. SEE WHAT I'M UP AGAINST KARDAK WITH A TEMPERAMENTAL STAR LIKE VAN SLICK! NOW THE WHOLE CAST LOSES PAY UNTIL HE GETS BACK INTO THE MOOD!

MAYBE I CAN HANDLE HIM, EDDIE!.. I'LL BE RIGHT BACK!



OH MR. VAN SLICK! JUST A MOMENT!

OH!.. YOU'RE THAT MAGICIAN FRIEND OF THE DIRECTOR!.. WELL, WHAT DO YOU WANT!



IF YOU THINK I'M GOING TO CHANGE MY MIND YOU'RE CRAZY!

YOU'RE PRETTY CALLOUS ABOUT OTHER PEOPLE'S SUFFERINGS! LET'S SEE WHAT YOUR FUTURE'S LIKE!

**DOOR TO THE FUTURE**



ROT! YOU CAN'T BLUFF ME! DOOR TO THE FUTURE! HA, HA! THAT IS A LAUGH!



AS VAN SLICK STEPS THROUGH THE DOOR...

HEY! WH... WHAT'S HAPPENED? WHERE AM I?



KEEP MOVIN', BUD!

WHO DO YOU THINK YOU'RE TALKING TO!.. I KNOW WHO I AM?



OWOO!

SURE!.. A WISE BUM WHO'S ASKIN' FOR IT! ...MOVE, I SAID!



THIS MUST BE A GAG!... OH! HERE COMES EDDIE, NOW!... BOY, WILL I BAWL HIM OUT! EDDIE!... OH, EDDIE!

WHO'S THAT GUY, EDDIE?

HUH? I DUNNO!

NOW, LOOK!... I... WELL, I'LL BE!... IT'S OSWALD VAN SLICK!... HE USED TO BE A BIG SHOT ABOUT FIVE YEARS AGO! REMEMBER JIMMIE, OSSIE?... HE'S MY STAR, NOW!

HE OUGHT TO!... HE SOCKED ME OFTEN ENOUGH!

ARE YOU ALL NUTS? JUST FIVE MINUTES AGO, I WAS..

POOR GUY!... HE LOOKS DOWN AND OUT! HERE'S A DIME FOR SOME COFFEE!

THAT'S THE WAY IT IS!... UP ONE DAY, DOWN THE NEXT!... WELL, SO LONG!

WHY YOU DIRTY!... THINK I'M A PAN-HANDLER, HUH?

HELLO, VAN SLICK! HOW'S THINGS?

YOU!

THIS IS ALL ONE OF YOUR BLASTED TRICKS!... I'LL FIX YOU!

THE FELLOW'S A LITTLE HOT UNDER THE COLLAR, BALTHAR!

LET ME GO!

ME COOL 'IM OFF!

NO ROUGH STUFF, BALTHAR!... I GUESS HE STILL HASN'T THOUGHT THINGS OVER YET!... LET'S GO!

VAN SLICK GOES TO THE BANK WHERE HE THINKS HE STILL HOLDS AN ACCOUNT...

LOOK!... I MUST'VE LOST MY BANK BOOK!... WHERE'S THE PRESIDENT?

OH!... A WISE GUY HUH!... OUTSIDE, BUM!... BEFORE I GIVE YOU THE SOLE OF MY BOOT!





WELL WHAT IS IT, PAT?

THIS TRAMP INSISTS ON SEEIN' YOU... SAYS HE'S GOT AN ACCOUNT HERE!



I'M OSWALD VAN SLICK, OF COURSE! WILL YOU PLEASE INSTRUCT YOUR CASHIER TO LET ME HAVE MY MONEY?

WHAT IS THIS A JOKE? YOU DREW ALL YOUR MONEY YEARS AGO!



HEY!.. STOP!

YOU'RE IN ON THIS FRAME-UP, TOO! I'LL KILL YOU!.. I'LL

HELP! HELP! AARGH!



ARREST HIM! HE'S A MADMAN!

I KNEW HE WAS A SCREWBALL! I'LL TAKE CARE OF HIM, SIR!

LET GO OF ME!



A PATROL WAGON CARTS THE BEWILDERED VAN SLICK TO THE STATION HOUSE...

THAT'S HOW IT IS WITH THESE EX-STARS, PAT! THEY JUST CAN'T GET USED TO FAILURE!

THAT'S RIGHT, MIKE!

HO HO!



WELL, VAN SLICK, HOW DOES IT FEEL TO BE KNOCKED OFF YOUR PEDESTAL?

POLICE



C'MON!.. NO USE FIGHTIN'!.. YOU'RE GOIN' INTO THE HOOSEGOW!

KARDAK! GET ME OUT OF THIS!.. I'LL DO ANYTHING YOU SAY!.. PLEASE!



FOLLOW ME! BALTHAR'LL HOLD THE POLICE OFF FOR AWHILE!





ALL RIGHT!..I GUESS YOU'VE LEARNED YOUR LESSON!.... PRESTO!

DOOR TO THE PAST



THE ACTOR STEPS THROUGH THE DOOR OF THE PAST...

WH... WHA...

HELLO! BACK SO SOON?



COME ON EVERYBODY!..WHAT ARE WE WAITING FOR?..LET'S GET ON WITH THE REHEARSAL!

STAGE



GREAT GHOSTS!..AM I HEARIN' THINGS?

IF WE ALL PITCH IN AND CO-OPERATE, WE'LL MAKE A HIT OUT OF THIS SHOW!..LET'S GO EVERYBODY!..AND DON'T SPARE THE HORSES!



KARDAK!..I CAN'T BELIEVE MY EARS!..WHAT DID YOU SAY TO HIM?



JUST A LITTLE MENTAL HYPNOSIS!..IT'S WORKED BEFORE...AND I GUESS IT'S WORKING AGAIN!



LATER, AS VAN SLICK LEAVES...

HEY MR.... CAN YOU SPARE A DIME?..ULP!..IT'S VAN SLICK!



SURE IT'S ME!..SO WHAT? HERE HAVE YOURSELF A TEN COURSE MEAL!..AND COME AROUND TOMORROW... I'LL GET A JOB FOR YOU!

ULP!

MORE OF THE MYSTIC MAGICIAN'S UNUSUAL ADVENTURES IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF TOP-NOTCH COMICS!



# MECHANICS

## You Need This Book—

# Know!

## YOUR CAR

JUST OUT!

## AUDELS NEW AUTO GUIDE



NEW FLUID DRIVE FULLY EXPLAINED!

ANSWERS YOUR QUESTIONS

Audels New Automobile Guide is New from Cover to Cover. Contains all you need to know about the 1. Construction, 2. Operation, 3. Service, 4. Repair of Modern Motor Cars, Trucks, Buses and Diesel Engines. It contains Practical Information in a Handy Form—1540 Pages—1540 Illustrations. Written by an engineering authority and presented with forceful directness in PLAIN LANGUAGE and SIMPLE TERMS, generously illustrated. It is an up-to-date authoritative Book of Complete Instructions for all service jobs giving a New Vision of the automotive field. Covers the Entire Subject in Every Detail. Does Not Deal in Idle Theories, but gives Definite Directions telling Exactly What To Do and How To Do It. It is Packed Full with Important Information. Indispensable to Auto Mechanics, Service Men and Owners.

### INSIDE VIEWS OF AUTOMOBILE PARTS FULLY ILLUSTRATED

The contents is Progressively Arranged; thus making it a Text Book and a Reference Book, to which you will refer again and again. This book completely covers the Parts of an Automobile—Automotive Physics—The Gas Engine—How a Gas Engine Works—Gas Engine Principles—Multi-Cylinder Engines—Horse Power—Automobile Engines—Engines: Stationary Parts—Engines: Moving Parts—Pistons—Piston Rings—Connecting Rods—Crank Shafts—The Valves—The Valve Gear—Cams and Cam Action—Valve Timing—Cooling Systems—Gasoline—Fuel Feed Systems—The Mixture—Carburetors—Automatic Choke—Super Chargers—Transmissions—Synchro-Mesh—Clutches—Universals and Propeller Shafts—The Differential—Rear Axles—The Running Gear—Brakes—Wheel Alignment—Knee Action—Steering Gear—Tires—Lubricants and Lubrication—Automotive Electricity—Ignition Systems—Magneto Ignition—Spark Plugs—Ignition Coils—Distributors—Automatic Spark Control—Ignition Timing—Generators—Starters—Generator and Starter Testing—Lighting Systems—Storage Batteries—Battery Charging—Battery Testing Troubles.

The 1540 Illustrations in this book are photographs of modern cars and mechanical drawings giving details for guidance. They explain all working parts and their functions. Alphabetical Index lists 55 interesting and instructive chapters with many sub-chapters—a big time saver.

## DIESEL ENGINES Fully Treated

If you are interested in the Construction, Operation or Maintenance of Modern Diesel Engines including the New 2 cycle Diesel this new book gives Practical, Useful Information. Contains over 100 pages on Diesel with many illustrations. All details thoroughly and clearly explained. These interesting pages will answer your Diesel questions—save fuel and operating trouble. Complete with all answers.

TO GET THIS ASSISTANCE FOR YOURSELF SIMPLY FILL IN AND MAIL COUPON TODAY

**\$4 COMPLETE**  
PAY \$1 A MONTH ONLY

### ASK TO SEE IT!

**THEO. AUDEL & CO., 49 West 23rd St., New York**  
Please send me postpaid AUDELS NEW AUTOMOBILE GUIDE (\$4) for free examination. If I decide to keep it, I will send you \$1 within 7 days; then remit \$1 monthly until purchase price of \$4 is paid. Otherwise, I will return it to you promptly.

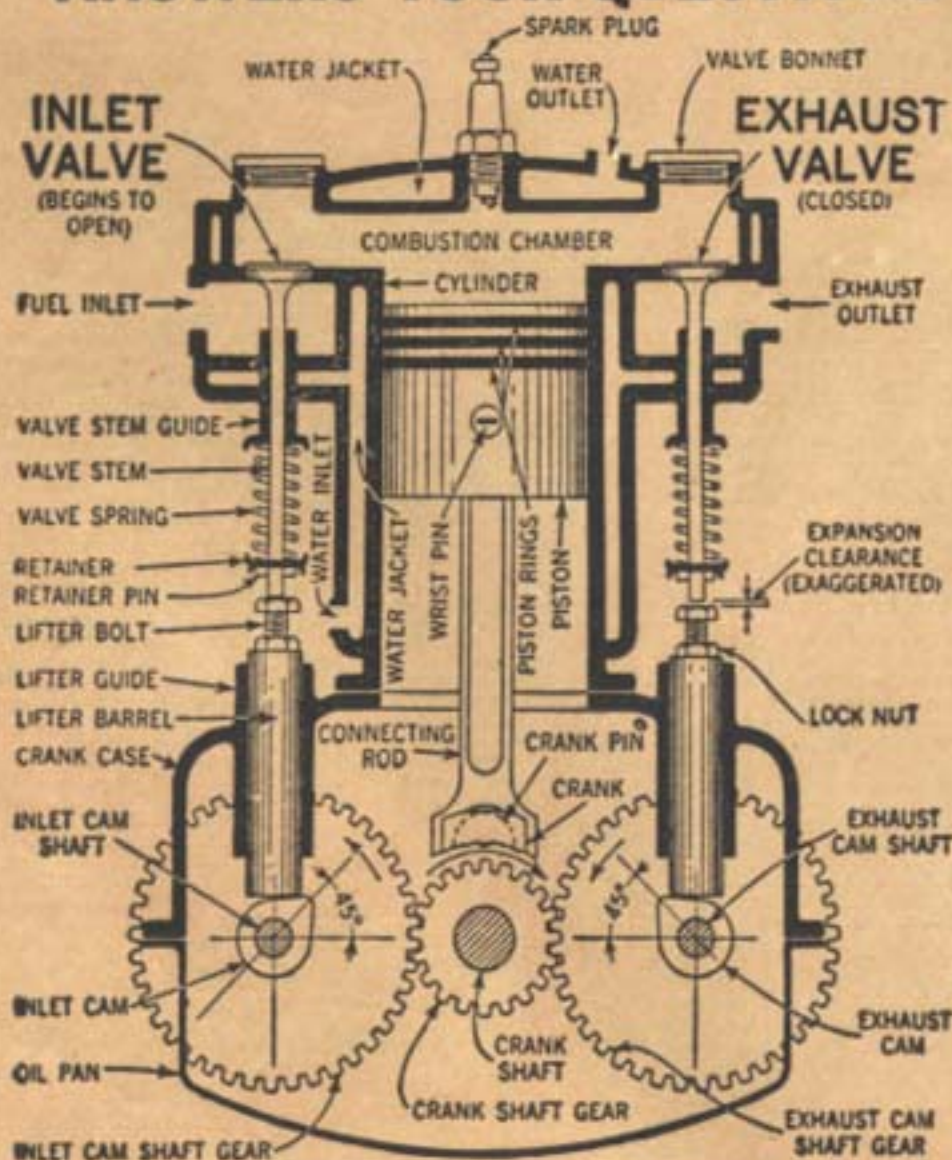
Name \_\_\_\_\_

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Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Reference \_\_\_\_\_

HAM 7



SPECIMEN ILLUSTRATION—INSIDE VIEW OF MOTOR



# C'mon - PICK YOUR PRIZE

THESE PRIZES ARE GIVEN TO YOU—Just send for 28 packets of easy selling Garden Spot Seeds which you can easily and quickly sell to your friends and neighbors at 10c each. Return the \$2.80 collected and select your Prize in accordance to our offers! SEND NO MONEY—WE TRUST YOU.



## 22 Piece TABLEWARE SET



6 Knives, 6 Forks, 6 Teaspoons, Butter Knife, Sugar Shell. **GIVEN** for selling only one order.

## Good Luck FISHING OUTFIT



Steel rod, reel, casting line, 12 spelled hooks, 12 lead sinker, cork float and stringer. **Send only one order.**

## Household CLOCK



Can be used anywhere. Richly finished in two tone effect. 30 hour movement. **Dispose of only 1 order and Clock is yours. WRITE TODAY.**

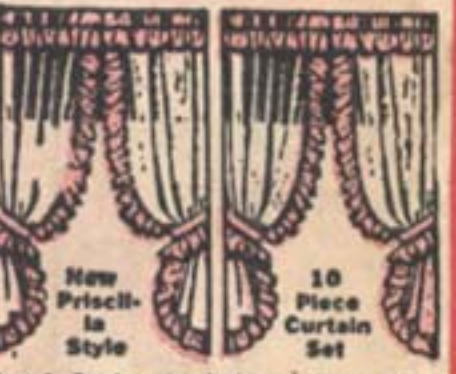
## Real Live CANARY



What a pet! You will love it. Canary and Cage both given for selling only two orders. **WRITE TODAY.**

**Sent Express Collect.**

## 10 Piece Priscilla Curtain Set



Curtain Set in refined white pattern, finished with 2 1/4 inch ruffles in colors. Each curtain is 20x90 inches, 2 pairs, 4 Curtains, 4 Tie-Backs & 2 Ruffled Valances, 10 pieces in all. **ALL GIVEN** to you as one premium for distributing only one order. Postpaid

## 32 Piece Rose Petal DINNER SET GIVEN



**Set GIVEN** for selling 2 orders. Sent express collect.

## JUNIOR GUITAR GIVEN



Get this handsome instrument **NOW**. Here's How Just send your name and address (**SEND NO MONEY**). **WE TRUST YOU** with 28 pkts. of Garden Seeds to sell at 10 cts. a pkt. When sold send \$2.80 collected and **WE WILL SEND** this mahogany finished guitar and Five Minute Instruction Book absolutely **FREE**. Send for seeds **NOW**.

## Ladies' New Fashion WRIST WATCH GIVEN



**More Than a Guaranteed Timekeeper**  
Sparkling enameled ivory case. Guaranteed Movement. Yours for disposing of only two orders of Garden Spot Seeds. **MAIL COUPON TODAY.**



**Crinkled BED SPREAD**  
The crinkled stripes are neatly woven in contrasting shades. Size 80x90 inches. A beauty. **Simply dispose of 1 order.**



## Midget Pocket RADIO GIVEN

for selling only two 28 packet orders of Garden Spot Seeds at 10c a pkt. Radio needs no batteries or electrical connections. Is complete and ready for use anywhere. **SEND NO MONEY. WE TRUST YOU.** Hurry! Just use this Coupon. Do not wait; do it **NOW**

Write for Seeds to: Lancaster County Seed Co., Sta. 393 Paradise, Pa.

## BASKETBALL GIVEN



Latest Rubber Valve Type. **Send No Money.** Just name and address. Given for disposing of only 28 pkts. of Garden Spot Seeds at 10c a pkt. **WRITE FOR SEEDS TODAY.** Hurry! Be First.

**SEND NO MONEY Just MAIL COUPON**

## Blue Bird Granite Cooking Set



Convenient and sanitary kitchen utensils. Entire Set, given as one Premium, consists of four regular-sized pieces: 1 Mixing Bowl, 1 Pudding Pan, 1 Preserving Kettle, with handle, 1 Sauce Pan. Given for selling only 28 pkts. of Garden Spot Seeds at 10c a pkt. Write for seeds **TODAY.** **Send No Money. We Trust You. Hurry! Be First.**

## VIOLIN, BOW & INSTRUCTIONS GIVEN



Handsome finish, highly polished. Set of strings and bow included. **Send no money. Given for selling only one order. MAIL THE COUPON TODAY. BE FIRST.**

## Home BARBER Outfit



Here is a money-saver, you can trim childrens' or adults' hair yourself without sending them to the barber. Consists of one pair of guaranteed Hair Clippers same as barber uses for the latest style cuts; one pair Diamond Point Barber Shears & 7-inch Barber Comb. **GIVEN** for selling 1 order.

## PRIZE TYPEWRITER GIVEN



\$10 for best and neatest letter written on this machine by July 1 1941. Simply dispose of only one order of Garden Spot Seeds at 10c a pkt. and Typewriter is yours.



## GIANT SPY-GLASS

See moon, stars and people miles away. Gives new pleasure. Always ready. Given for selling only one order. Send for seeds today.

MAIL COUPON TODAY for

# 5 FREE PROMPTNESS PRIZES!

SENT RIGHT ALONG WITH YOUR REGULAR PREMIUM IF WE GET THIS COUPON IN THE NEXT 5 DAYS. **SO HURRY! FILL OUT TODAY AND MAIL.**



**MAIL COUPON TODAY**

**SEND NO MONEY WE TRUST YOU**

Our 34th Year

Lancaster County Seed Co., Station 393 Paradise, Pa.

Please send me 28 packets (one order) of Garden Spot Seeds to sell at 10 cts. a pkt. for a fine Gift. I will sell and pay for seeds in 30 days. Also send right along with my Regular Premium the 5 FREE PROMPTNESS PRIZES SHOWN ABOVE.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Post Office \_\_\_\_\_  
 State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street or R. F. D. \_\_\_\_\_ Box \_\_\_\_\_  
 Print your last name plainly below

Save 2 cents by filling in, pasting and mailing this Coupon on a 1c Post Card TODAY